

Powell Is Out Of the Race, But Will Aid Republicans

Lacking the 'Passion' For Politics, He Also Declines No. 2 Spot

WASHINGTON — General Colin L. Powell ruled out a 1996 bid for the White House on Wednesday and said he would not be a candidate for vice president either.

He also declared himself a Republican, but would not commit himself to vote for the party's nominee next year.

General Powell, 58, the retired chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the presidential competition did not stir in him "the commitment and the passion" he had felt during his 35 years as a soldier, but he left open the possibility of a political future in another campaign.

"I'm ruling out a run for the presidency in 1996 or running for any elective office in 1996," General Powell said. His wife, Alma, was at his side as he spoke at a crowded ballroom news conference in Alexandria, Virginia, a Washington suburb.

As a new black Republican, he said, "I believe I can help the party of Lincoln move once again closer to the spirit of Lincoln."

But he declined to endorse any Republican prospect for the White House, saying he would wait and see about that — and also about whom to vote for next November.

The general's decision not to run, after weeks of private agonizing, deprived legions of hopeful supporters of the candidate they saw as the Republican Party's best hope to defeat President Bill Clinton in the November 1996 election.

But it delighted right-wingers within the Republican bloc, who saw the general as too liberal for their tastes.

The decision was also apparently good news for the front-runner for the Republican nomination, Senator Bob Dole. The general's strength in public opinion polls was such that a candidacy would have been a huge threat to Mr. Dole's chances for the nomination.

Opinion polls also showed General Powell to be the only Republican who consistently defeated Mr. Clinton in direct matchups.

Still, the deputy White House chief of staff, Harold Ickes, said there no "sighs of relief" about the decision there. "We were prepared to take our case to the country on matter what Colin Powell decided to do," Mr. Ickes said.

But another Clinton aide, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "We've dodged the big bullet."

While standing aside for the next campaign, General Powell did not rule himself out of political competition for good. "The future is the future," he said.

He said family concerns were paramount to him but that he was not concerned about his personal security. Mrs. Powell said she had concerns about his security, but that her worry on that score was not a factor in his decision.

General Powell said running for president "would require sacrifices and changes in our lives that would be difficult for us to make at this time."

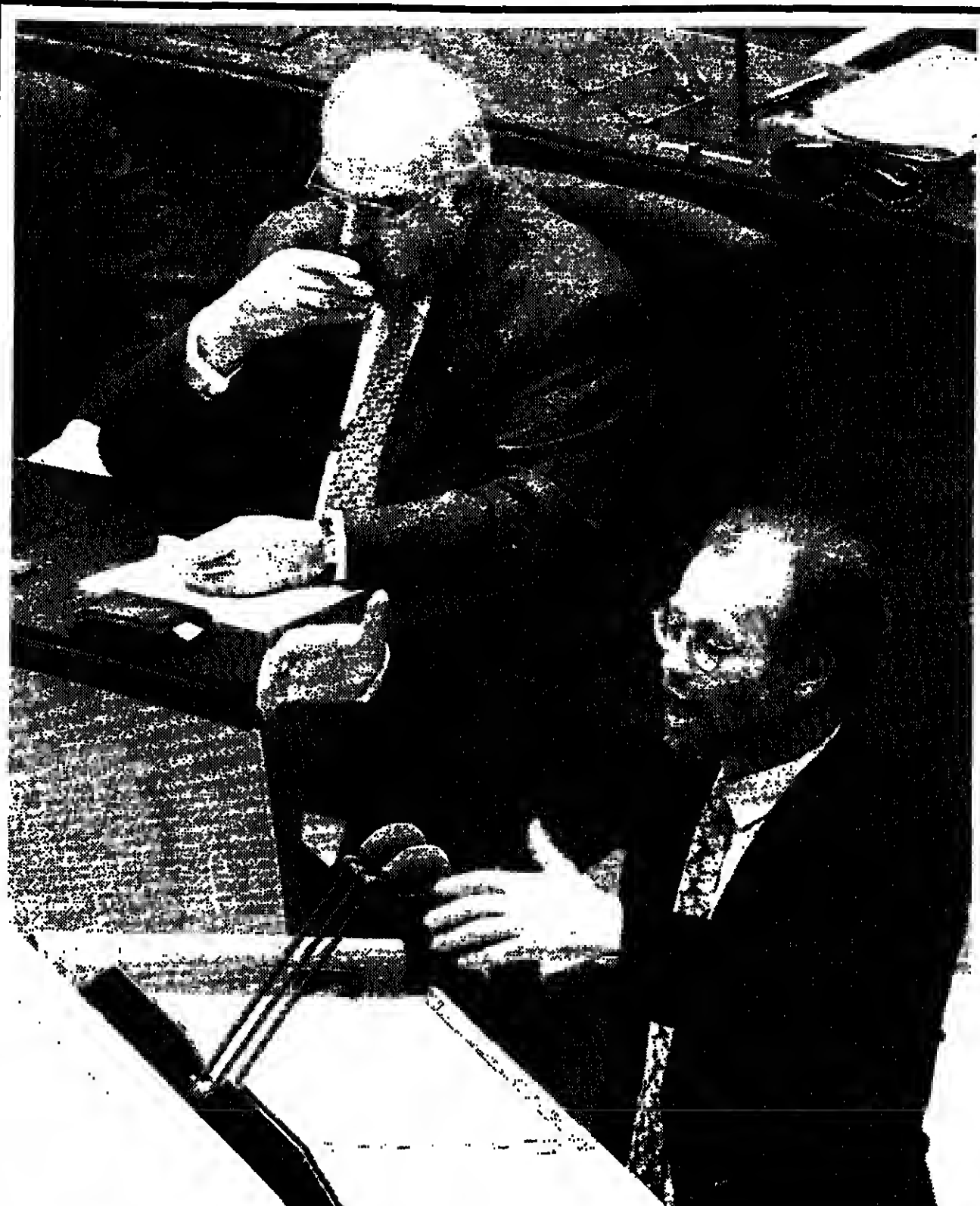
Among the problems he would have faced as a candidate would have been attacks from conservatives who saw him as a social liberal. Some Republicans, like the commentator Patrick J. Buchanan, had denounced General Powell as a bogus Republican and vowed to fight him.

At the other Republican campaigns, there was a rush to suggest that with General Powell in the sidelines, Mr. Dole's challengers would get a closer look.

"The field is now clear and the race is now between a respected Washington insider, Bob Dole, and an outsider, me," said former Governor Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, who has languished in the polls.

Members of draft-Powell organizations voiced disappointment that the retired general would not be a candidate.

"I consider him a great American," said Tim Bush, who led the draft-Powell movement in New Hampshire. "I think really the country is the loser." (AP, Reuters)



Rudolf Scharping speaking Wednesday in Parliament in Bonn as Chancellor Helmut Kohl took a chocolate break.

Foes Could Sabotage EMU, Kohl Says Political Opponents Assailed in Parliament Debate

BONN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Wednesday demanded that his opponents stop attacking a planned merger of European currencies, saying the campaign could raise doubts about German leadership.

"This is a very precious topic," Mr. Kohl said in a sharp rebuke to the left-center Social Democrats during a budget debate in the lower house of Parliament. "It lends itself neither to the spinning of legends nor to cheap populism."

European unity must remain the core of German foreign policy at a time when its neighbors "are watching us much more intensely than a few years ago," Mr. Kohl told lawmakers.

He also said that launching a single European currency without France would be unthinkable.

But he declined to discuss how he

thought more than two or three countries could join the European Union's economic and monetary union by its 1999 target date.

A single currency linking only Germany, Luxembourg and Ireland and leaving out France, Bonn's most important ally, was out in the cards.

"That would be a false suggestion,"

France's new cabinet pledges to cut the deficit and create jobs. Page 13.

he said. "I have said this often enough."

He brushed off opposition demands to spell out how European monetary union, or EMU, could be brought about and what its effect would be on the man in the street.

Answering a long list of questions about EMU before sitting down with other

EU countries would give him no room in negoti-

ated, he said, the Social Democrats to stop feeding fears by suggesting a single currency might be weak.

But the Social Democratic leader, Rudolf Scharping, said Germany needed to debate the issue openly or it would not win support for giving up the Deutsche mark.

"If we don't convince voters in open debate that a common currency, common economic policy and the common defense of social peace are an important concern for Europe, then we will not get their support," he said.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel also assailed the Social Democrats, urging them to drop their "Deutsche mark nationalism. This is cheap populism," he said. "We are

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Israel Arrests 2 More In Rabin Murder Plot One of 4 Suspects Leads Group That Claimed Attacks on Arabs

By Daniel Williams Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — The police arrested two people Wednesday in connection with the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, one of whom is the leader of a militant anti-Arab group that claimed responsibility for a deadly attack on Palestinians this year.

Avishai Raviv, the leader of the far-rightist Eyal movement, was charged in a Tel Aviv court with conspiracy. The group calls for the expulsion of Arabs from land under Israeli control and is composed of disciples of the Jewish supremacist Meir Kahane, who was assassinated in New York City in 1990.

The name of the other suspect was not released.

As Mr. Raviv was brought into the courtroom he shouted, "This is a political investigation!" On Monday, he called a radio station from hiding to claim that the police were persecuting his group.

The arrests bring to four the number of people charged in Mr. Rabin's murder on Saturday. The authorities have already charged the assassin, Yigal Amir, a law student who the police said was connected to Eyal, and his brother, Hagai, who they said hollowed out the heads of the bullets that killed Mr. Rabin.

Mr. Amir was apparently alone when he fired three shots at Mr. Rabin as the prime minister entered his car at the end of a peace rally in Tel Aviv. Investigators are trying to determine whether he was part of a rightist conspiracy to kill Mr. Rabin for his efforts to make peace with the Arab world and withdraw Israeli troops from parts of the West Bank.

Just after the assassination, Mr. Raviv said his group "admires the lad for his sincerity, for standing behind his words." He also said, "This man Rabin is responsible for the murder of hundreds of Jews."

He said in a radio interview that he knew Mr. Amir, "but he does not belong to our

unit and we deny any connection to the incident."

Mr. Raviv has been arrested before. In September he was arrested in connection with the killing of a Palestinian man in the West Bank town of Halhul. Five Israelis dressed as soldiers entered the town, barged into houses, beat up unarmed men and shot a 23-year-old Palestinian while his father, bound and gagged, looked on.

He was released on bail soon afterward. Few Israelis have been convicted for attacking or killing Palestinians.

Eyal was formed in 1992 at Tel Aviv University by students who declared that two other Kahaneist groups were "all talk and no action," said Ehud Sprinzak, an expert on the radical right.

Mr. Kahane preached that Israel was for the Jews and that killing Arabs strengthened the Jewish people. He promoted the forcible expulsion of Arabs and Israel's perpetual control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On Wednesday, as police officers fanned out into the West Bank to raid the hideouts of Kahaneist militants, the government formed a commission to investigate Mr. Rabin's assassination. But it limited the scope of the inquiry to the killing itself and to how a gunman breached security around the prime minister.

The commission will not take up the broader issue of Israeli extremism, as some cabinet members had wanted.

The cabinet, in its first meeting under Prime Minister Shimon Peres, heard a scathing report from investigators about the handling of Mr. Rabin's security.

As a result, the head of the unit responsible for guarding Mr. Rabin, a branch of the Shin Bet domestic intelligence agency, resigned. In addition, the head of the so-called VIP security unit was fired and two bodyguards were suspended.

The report criticized the bodyguards for letting Mr. Amir loiter around Mr. Rabin's car. It faulted them for not clearing the area

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Russians Agree to Serve With U.S. Unit in Bosnia

By Craig R. Whitney New York Times Service

BRUSSELS — Russia and the United States agreed Wednesday on a face-saving way of allowing about a thousand Russian combat troops to participate in a NATO peacekeeping force in Bosnia by serving with an American division there.

Defense Secretary William J. Perry and Defense Minister Pavel S. Grachev said they had agreed in talks at NATO headquarters that a Russian brigade consisting of two or three infantry battalions could participate in the peacekeeping force this way without technically taking orders from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

General Grachev said, "I would have to draw pictures and show you diagrams," when he was asked for details about how the arrangements would work. Mr. Perry later explained, "What we agreed on today

was a solution for the military control of a Russian brigade that would be operating in an American division."

"If we get a peace agreement in Dayton, it will be very important to have Russian participation," Mr. Perry said, referring to the American-sponsored talks between Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian leaders in Ohio. But, he said, Russia and the United States still had to resolve the disputed issue of the overall political authority underlying the peacekeeping arrangements.

Wednesday's agreement supersedes a compromise the two men reached in Ft. Riley, Kansas, last month to allow about 2,000 Russian soldiers to perform non-combat missions such as transporting supplies and clearing roads. U.S. officials said, "If we can't work out the political control arrangements, the Ft. Riley arrangements might go forward, but I doubt very much

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AGENDA

Iraqis Looked Into a Rare Weapon

PAGE TWO Crossroads for Orthodox Church

THE AMERICAS Page 3 What Happened to Tax Breaks?

ASIA Page 4 Executives Grilled in Seoul

INTERNATIONAL Page 7 Iraq's Radiation Bomb

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The UN weapons inspector who has been investigating Iraq's weapons program in the aftermath of the Gulf War has told the Security Council that Baghdad experimented with a radiological weapon, a rare tool of warfare because of its unstable nature.

The Iraqis were looking into whether they could build shells or bombs packed with material heavily radiated in a reactor that could be dispersed in the air or over the ground to sicken or kill opposition forces.

The United Nations is still in the first stages of uncovering details of the program and does not yet know the extent of the experiments. But the inspector said documents showed it was part of Iraq's crash weapons program. (Page 7)



HIGH HOPES — Willie Brown of San Francisco, who forced a runoff with Mayor Frank Jordan. Democrats nationally got a boost in elections. Page 3.

On the Internet, a Cyber-Sucker's Born Every Minute

By Jerry Knight Washington Post Service

Larry Cook was prowling for financial advice on the Internet one night when he ran across a message that trumpeted the glories of investing in a coconut plantation in Costa Rica.

Buying into a coconut plantation is "similar to a CD, with a better interest rate," Mr. Cook read in a message on his home computer in Topeka, Kansas. It came from a man in Pennsylvania who said his name was Scott A. Frye.

As little as \$10,000 could produce a 20 percent annual profit for the next 50 years, Mr. Frye offered in another message. "How much do you have to invest?"

Instead of sending a check, Mr. Cook served Mr. Frye with a court order citing him and two companies he owns for selling unregistered securities.

No sucker in cyberspace, Mr. Cook is the director of enforcement for the Kansas Securities Commission, one of the nation's first undercover investigators on the Internet beat.

Now facing a lawsuit by the Securities and Exchange Commission in addition to the state charges, Mr. Frye denies he was trying to sell unregistered securities on the Internet. He said in an interview that he doesn't know how the information about his coconut plantation got on to computer networks.

That's what makes controlling electronic investment scams so difficult, regulators say: It is difficult to track

computer messages and often impossible for investors to tell with whom they are dealing or where those people really are.

The SEC and state regulators — working through the North American Securities Administrators Association — say they are gearing up to handle the new wave of swindlers who are using the Internet, commercial on-line services, computer bulletin boards and electronic mail to lure potential investors.

In the past few weeks, the SEC and state agencies have filed civil charges against people who were allegedly using electronic media to manipulate stock prices, promote chain letters, sell shares in a nonexistent mutual

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Phone Workers In Japan Face Massive Layoffs

TOKYO — Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp. will shed almost a quarter of its work force over the next five years to turn itself into a leaner organization amid a heated debate over its future, the company said Wednesday.

The move to restructure would make it one of the largest ever by a Japanese firm.

Japan's largest telephone service operator plans to eliminate 45,000 of its 195,000 jobs by 2000 through early retirement and transfers to affiliated companies.

It will also spin off several divisions into separate companies. NTT's president, Masashi Kojima, said,

As a result, NTT will be able to cut the cost of long distance calls because of the money saved, Mr. Kojima said.

NTT, a former government monopoly has been facing increasing pressure to streamline its operations as the government allows new competitors into telephone markets.

The company's decision also comes as a Japanese government committee debates whether to split the giant company into separate units, a move that would radically change the face of the Japanese telecommunications industry.

Among the areas singled out by NTT for cuts are directory inquiry services, telephone equipment sales offices, white-collar staff and other local offices.

(Bloomberg, AP, Reuters)

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Up 55.64	Up 0.15%
4852.67	124.40

The Dollar	Week close	Previous close
DM	1.422	1.4164
Pound	1.5798	1.581
Yen	102.61	103.015
FF	4.8945	4.8825

Newsstand Prices	
Andorra	10.00 FF
Antilles	12.50 FF
Cameroon 1 600	CFA
Egypt	10.00 FF
France	10.00 FF
Gabon	1 100 CFA
Greece	2 800 Dr
Italy	1 250 Lire
Lebanon	1 800 L.L.
Luxembourg	65 L Fr
Morocco	14 Dh
Qatar	1,000 Rials
Reunion	12.50 FF
Saudi Arabia	10.00 R
Senegal	1 100 CFA
Spain	225 PTAS
Tunisia	1 250 Din
Turkey	1 60,000
U.A.E.	10.00 Dh
U.S. Mkt. (Eur.) ..	\$1.20



At a Crossroads / Dream Threatened by Nationalist Rivalries

Revitalized Orthodox Church Searches for Unity

By Marliese Simons
New York Times Service

PATMOS, Greece — With his flowing robes, beard and sculptured staff, Patriarch Bartholomew I looks much like an ancient prophet. Indeed, his throne in Istanbul reaches back almost to biblical times. But the leader of the world's Orthodox Christians definitely thinks of himself as a man of this moment.

Just recently, he did as modern heads of organizations do: he called a meeting of chief executives, in this case the primates of the 15 independent Eastern Orthodox churches. They represent more than 170 million faithful, most of them in countries newly freed from communism.

This exceptional gathering — the Orthodox primates had met only once before since the late Middle Ages — meant more than high-level talks on holy and temporal issues. The Orthodox Church, which has played a central role in history and culture across a region from St. Petersburg to Jerusalem, is at a turning point.

Nowhere else is the religious revival more intense than in the former East bloc, the stronghold of Orthodoxy. The collapse of communism and the end of militant atheism have brought such a flocking to the thousands of reopened churches and a revival of monasteries and seminaries that the overwhelmed clergy are begging for help and money.

Patriarch Bartholomew sees an even greater harvest. He believes that this is the moment for the independent Orthodox churches, long isolated and fragmented by politics, to come together and to rebuild the role they long held as a great force in Christendom.

"We now have the possibility to speak with one voice," he said in September as he traveled by ship to the great assembly on the Greek island of Patmos.

Other primates and archbishops on board seemed to share that vision. Those from Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine want a stronger alliance because Western preachers of all creeds have been successfully encroaching on traditional Orthodox territory.

In Bulgaria, Greece, Cyprus and Georgia, which border on the Muslim world, priests fear the rise of militant Islam.

But while post-Communist change has given Orthodoxy a burst of life, it has not brought peace to all its churches. Nationalist awakening has drawn the Russian church into conflicts in Ukraine and Estonia as those countries have pulled away from Moscow.

Most painful to many prelates, the church has become a party to the war in Bosnia, where some clerics have openly sided with the Orthodox Serbs, against the wishes of the Serbian patriarch, Pavle. Relations between the Serbian government of President Slobodan Milosevic and the patriarch are very strained, priests from Belgrade said.

The Orthodox are quick to explain that they have always faced turbulence. In fact, when they speak of their church history, they cite a calendar of occupations and rifts. After the end of the Roman Empire, the Greek-speaking Eastern churches with their different Byzantine liturgy began to drift apart from Western Christianity, which used Latin.

The split came in 1054, when the Pope in Rome ordered the excommunication of the Patriarch of Constantinople because of theological differences. By the 15th century, the Turkish Ottoman empire had drawn a Muslim line through the southern Orthodox lands of the Balkans, though it tolerated Christian practice. Yet when Ottoman rule finally col-



Joseph Duval, left, president of the conference of French bishops, and Patriarch Bartholomew I after saying a prayer in Lourdes, where the conference was held.

lapsed early this century, the northern Orthodox were overrun and persecuted by communism's militant atheists. Such strife has kept the churches apart.

"The resilience of the religion has been amazing," said the Reverend Leonid Kishkovsky, a Russian priest based in New York, noting that as communism closed and destroyed churches, new communities grew stronger as far away as Western Europe, North America and Australia.

"Today, as the primates search for unity, some old fault lines are reappearing and setting fresh obstacles. Behind the brotherly sermons there are new rivalries."

One dispute involves the two main centers of power, Istanbul and Moscow. Patriarch Bartholomew I, whose see in Istanbul makes him "first among equals," has been at odds with Patriarch Aleksei II of Moscow, who heads the largest church.

The Moscow patriarch even boycotted the Patmos assembly. He said that he had stayed away because of serious differences with the see in Istanbul over church politics in Estonia and Ukraine.

On the ship sailing for Patmos, Patriarch Bartholomew was asked about the issue. He explained that early this year he had supported an Estonian request for autonomy because it was Stalin who had forced Estonia's parishes to submit to the Russian church. But the Moscow patriarch has taken this as a challenge to his authority.

"He insists this was for him to decide and at the very least he should have been consulted," a Russian priest said.

Divisions are worse in Ukraine, where the Orthodox are now split into four groups, each claiming rights based on schisms in the 17th century and early 20th century. Most now want to secede from Moscow. In this case, too, the Moscow patriarch has accused Istanbul of unduly encouraging the wayward movement.

Losing Ukraine's 7,000 parishes would be a serious blow to Moscow. Ecclesiastical institutions are the least damaged in Ukraine because two-thirds of the churches that stayed open in the Soviet Union were there.

It has also provided Russia with priests; about 70 percent of seminarians came from Ukraine in Soviet times.

Some theologians think that the dismemberment of Russia's enormous church may be as unavoidable as the breakup of the Soviet Union. They see it as one way of paying a political debt. The opening of the KGB files in 1992 offered ample evidence that some Russian and other Orthodox bishops had collaborated with the Soviet secret police.

One simmering coterie involves the church of Greece, which for much of communism saw itself as a guardian of Orthodoxy. It cherishes its place as the cradle of the primitive church and the Greek clergy is still present in the historic centers of Istanbul and Jerusalem and places like Cyprus, Albania and North America.

But some Greek prelates find cause for alarm in the renaissance of the Russian church. They are convinced that Moscow is using its weight and power to regain its place at the center of the Orthodox world, at the expense of the Greek-led patriarchy in Istanbul.

Timotheos, the archimandrite, or abbot, of a large monastery near Athens, recounted his confrontation with a Russian bishop:

"At a conference I asked him, why do you Russians try to dominate the Orthodox world? He replied: Because we are 200 million people. So I said: Then why didn't you let the Chinese run the Communist world? They were the biggest. He didn't answer me."

MOSCOW is frustrated that Greece will not accept more young Russian monks on Mount Athos in Greece, where there is a cluster of 20 monasteries long considered Orthodoxy's main spiritual center.

Suspicious Greek abbots want to limit Russian novices because early this century almost half of the 7,500 monks on Athos were Russians. "They want to flood us again," a Greek monk said.

Across the East bloc, though, reviving the closed or dilapidated monasteries and seminaries may be the easy part. The short-handed clergy there now have to relearn almost all the roles from which they were cut off, including education and pastoral and social work.

This is one more reason why church leaders, despite their rivalries, want to break out of their isolation and cooperate more closely. The main question here is how the regional churches, each one fiercely jealous of its independence, should deal with one other.

Clerics say they are talking about creating new channels or even a formal structure, but not one similar to a central authority like the Vatican.

Much may depend on Bartholomew, who as the most senior figure provides a forum, sets the agenda and acts as a pivot. In truth, the ecumenical patriarch also needs the support of the other primates because of his own precarious position in Istanbul. His diocese there has only about 2,000 faithful left and Muslim fundamentalists and Turkish nationalists have demanded that Turkey expel him.

Since he took office in 1991, the 55-year-old patriarch has shown uncommon energy and visited all the church primates in the East. This summer he saw the Pope in Rome, and he was in Paris this week.

COMING UP

Elisabeth Rehn, a maverick in her former job as Finland's defense minister, makes clear to everyone she meets in the former Yugoslavia that she has no friends, no enemies and no favorites.

Afghan Women Face New Threat
Fundamentalists Forcing UN Workers to Stay HomeBy Barbara Crossette
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Women are being forced out of their jobs at UN agencies in Afghanistan because of threats by self-appointed conservative Islamic councils, officials say.

In Jalalabad, in eastern Afghanistan, where UN agencies are caring for more than 100,000 Afghans recovering from civil war, at least three UN offices have kept women home rather than risk the collapse of their programs, officials said.

A fundamentalist Islamic movement known as the Taliban is said to be behind the effort to keep women — from cleaners to engineers, teachers and health workers — in their homes. The Taliban have captured Jalalabad and several other cities in Afghanistan and are now poised to attack Kabul, the capital.

The enforcers of the effort are local groups called *shuras*, which are organizing mobs to assault women on their way to work at international agencies or volunteer organizations and to sack the offices that employ them, officials say.

Peter Hansen, head of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs, said some Afghan women were continuing to work at home or were on paid leave until their contracts expired. But

he acknowledged that they risked losing their jobs if a compromise could not be reached. He said the confrontation posed a "terrible dilemma" for UN agencies, including the High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF.

Private organizations working in Afghanistan and human rights groups say they are outraged by what they see as the willingness of the United Nations to abandon women for the sake of smooth relations with religious conservatives.

In a letter to the UN Human Rights Committee, Pamela Collett of the Pakistan-based Afghanistan Institute of Save the Children, said, "The question is should UN agencies continue programming which benefits only males and/or employs only males in accordance with the shuras' decrees?"

■ Envoy Suspends Work
A UN special envoy in Afghanistan's civil war said Wednesday that he was suspending his mission to let Afghan factions negotiate among themselves. Reuters reported from Kabul.

The envoy, Mahmud Meisuri, told reporters during a brief visit to Kabul to meet with Mr. Rabbani that the Afghan women were continuing to work at home or were on paid leave until their contracts expired. But

TRAVEL UPDATE

'Some Hope' of Averting SAS Strike

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Scandinavian Airlines System said Wednesday it had "some hope" that Norwegian and Swedish cabin staff planning a two-day strike beginning Thursday would call off their action.

The 2,300 cabin staff members walked off the job last Thursday and Friday to protest scheduling changes by SAS. They vowed to do the same this week unless their demands were met.

"The two parties are currently negotiating, and we hope they can reach a compromise today," said an SAS spokesman, Troels Rasmussen. He added that if no agreement was reached by a midnight deadline, "between 250 and 300 flights will be canceled, especially in Europe."

Paris Maintains Air Pollution Alert

PARIS (Reuters) — Health authorities advised children and old people in Paris to avoid prolonged outdoor exercise for the third consecutive day Wednesday in an air pollution alert triggered by the season's first cold spell.

The authorities said that stable cold weather without wind was preventing nitrogen dioxide from car exhaust fumes from dissipating.

New Alarm Over Russian Air Safety

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian air safety is declining dramatically, and the percentage of serious accidents due to insufficient air traffic control has risen sharply in the 1990s, a senior aviation official said Wednesday.

Alexander Travnikov, director of Air Russian Air Traffic, told the Interfax news agency that the number of fatalities per 1 million passengers had risen from one in 1990 to 5.5 in 1993 and to 32 in the first quarter of 1994. The international average is less than one per 1 million passengers.

The share of accidents due to inadequate air traffic control has risen from 25 percent to 35 percent in the 1970-1980 period to about 50 percent in the 1990s, he said.

International airline passenger traffic rose 8 percent in the first nine months of 1995, and freight traffic increased 11 percent, the International Air Transport Association reported. (Reuters)

Voters in Aspen, Colorado, rejected by a margin of 60 percent to 40 percent a measure to expand the city airport's runway to handle bigger jets. (AP)

A huge duck migration through the middle of the United States appears to be winding down after forcing a temporary suspension of operations at airports in Kansas City, Missouri; Des Moines, Iowa; and Omaha, Nebraska. The airports shut down for several hours last week after the gigantic flocks overwhelmed airport radars. (AP)

Increases in New York City subway and bus fares that were to have taken effect on Sunday have been blocked by a federal judge. The fares would have increased to \$1.50 from \$1.25. Suburban train fares are still scheduled to go up an average 8.5 percent. (AP)

Paris Court Rules British Airways at Fault in Hostage Case

PARIS — British Airways is "entirely responsible" for an unscheduled 1990 stopover in Kuwait that let Iraqis take the passengers as hostages for up to three months, a French court ruled Wednesday.

The Paris tribunal, ruling on a lawsuit brought by 61 French passengers, ordered the airline to pay 400,000 francs (\$80,000) to those who were held a month, and 600,000 francs to those who were held three months.

The civil court also ordered

British Airways to pay another 60,000 francs to each of the detained passengers' 48 children as compensation for their nightmare.

The court said damages had been calculated according to how long each of the hostages was held. Similar lawsuits in England and Scotland have been rejected.

Flight BA149 from London to Kuala Lumpur landed in Kuwait City on Aug. 2, 1990, the day of the Iraqi invasion that triggered the Gulf War. Iraqi

soldiers seized the aircraft. Most of the 360 passengers and crew aboard the Boeing 747 were later used by Iraqis as human shields to protect strategic sites from potential bombing by U.S.-led forces.

"The last two months were really terrible — psychologically and physically," said Gabriel Chardin, a passenger who was held hostage for three months.

"It was really difficult. We were warned there could be an air strike by the Americans."

A British Airways spokesman said in London that the airline would consider an appeal. The spokesman, who declined to give his name, called the ruling "an extraordinary decision in a situation where British Airways and its crew were as much a victim as any of the passengers."

The lawsuit contended that the airline placed the passengers in danger by making the unplanned stop, Iraq had declared war on Kuwait several hours earlier, and by the time

the plane had landed, President Saddam Hussein's troops occupied the Kuwait capital.

The plaintiffs alleged that the landing, which was not listed on their tickets, was made to drop off British commandos. By so doing, the flight was transformed into a military flight that endangered the civilian passengers, argued their attorney, Dominique Menard.

British Airways' lawyer, Fernand Garnault, had countered during the trial that the allegation that British commandos were aboard was unfounded.

He read a statement by Prime Minister John Major denying the accusation and saying that the full invasion of Kuwait was not expected at the time of the flight.

British Airways said the Koweit landing was a normal stopover and that its liability was limited by the Warsaw Convention, which makes an airline responsible only for injuries or damage resulting from an accident on board a plane. (AP, Reuters)

WINTER IN PARIS

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Australian Spy Chief Seeks Regional Anti-Terrorist Effort

Agence France-Press

CANBERRA — Australia's counterintelligence chief called Wednesday for greater security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, warning that increased terrorist activity was likely in the area.

The director-general of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization, David Sadleir, said the region had sufficient local elements, including ethnic and religious disputes and separatist movements, to sustain a steady level of terrorism.

He told the Australian Institute of International Affairs here that other terrorist bodies, frustrated in Europe and the Middle East, were also moving to the region.

But the current counterterrorism arrangements required to meet the threat lack coordination, he said.

"There is by the standards of Western Europe and North America, a fragmented counterterrorism effort," he said. "At best," he said, the region "can expect no less terrorism, and it seems to me there is a credible

prospect of more." Mr. Sadleir said he could offer no prescription for an Asia-Pacific anti-terrorist grouping but his agency would continue to work to strengthen contact.

The key, he said, was to create a mechanism that would permit rapid communications about the movement of known or suspected terrorists.

"There has been a greater incidence of terrorists moving to or through the regions nearby us, and I have to say that generally we are kept well-informed."

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Bahrain	00973-0000	Finland	00358-0011
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THE AMERICAS

Democrats Find New Life in Midterm Elections

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Democrats have won the Kentucky governorship and all other statewide offices there, held off a Republican assault in Virginia and won back control of the Maine House in the first signs of a comeback after repeated electoral defeats for three years.

The best news for the Republican Party was in Mississippi, where Governor Kirk Fordice easily won a second term. But a high-powered Republican bid to take over the Mississippi Senate fell short of expectations.

The voting Tuesday in the off-year elections included dozens of mayoral contests, including a mudslinging brawl in San Francisco that pitted the incumbent, Frank Jordan, against the former speaker of the California Assembly, Willie Brown, and a prominent lesbian activist, Roberta Aceteborg.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Jordan, a former police chief, will face each other in a December runoff because neither won at least half the vote. Mr. Brown had 33.9 percent to Mr. Jordan's 31.4 percent.

Ms. Aceteborg, a former federal housing official who trailed with 27.4 percent, conceded the race early Wednesday and endorsed Mr. Brown. Five other candidates split the remaining votes.

Incumbents who won easy re-election bids included Democrats Kurt Schmoke in Baltimore and Edward Rendell in Philadelphia, and Bob Lanier in Houston's nonpartisan contest.

Leaders of both national parties closely watched the gubernatorial contests in Kentucky and Mississippi and legislative races in Virginia, Mississippi and Maine to see whether the Republicans would build on their gains of the last two years.

The results were mixed. In Kentucky, Lieutenant Governor Paul Patton narrowly defeated Larry Forgy, a lawyer, dashing his hopes of becoming the first Republican in the Kentucky governor's mansion since Louie B. Nunn left office in 1971.

Mr. Patton, a millionaire coal operator, interpreted the results as a referendum on national politics. "Kentucky has said 'no' to Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole. Kentucky has said 'no' to cuts in Medicare," he declared, adding: "Kentucky has said 'no' to the 'Contract with America.'"

The Democrats were jubilant, but the White House could not consider the victory much of an endorsement because Mr. Patton had distanced himself from President Bill Clinton and, in a big tobacco state, had vowed not to support him in 1996 if the president kept pushing curbs on smoking.

In Mississippi, Governor Fordice, 61, recycled the conservative, anti-government message he used to defeat the incumbent Ray Mabus four years ago to become the state's first Republican governor since 1876.

But Mr. Fordice didn't have the coalitions to bring Mississippi Republicans anywhere near capturing the nine seats they would have needed to control the state Senate.

In Maine, Democrats won two special elections and reclaimed a one-vote majority in the House. They had temporarily lost control of the House earlier this year because of party switches.

In New Jersey, where all 80 state Assembly seats were contested, Republicans maintained their lopsided majority.

Among the dozens of propositions decided by voters:

- A proposal in Maine to prohibit laws aimed at protecting homosexuals from discrimination was narrowly defeated.
- Voters in Washington state soundly rejected a measure to

let American Indians install slot and video-poker machines at their casinos and give every registered voter part of the take.

- Mississippi voters bucked a national trend by rejecting a proposal to limit terms for elected and appointed officials. So far 21 states have set term limits for state lawmakers.

Republicans had invested by far the most effort and money in Virginia, where the party was trying to cap its sweep of Congress last year by winning the Virginia legislature for the first time since Reconstruction.

But the Democrats kept control of the House of Delegates as well as effective control of the Senate, where the outcome left the chamber split, 20 to 20. That means Lieutenant Governor Donald S. Beyer Jr., a Democrat, will break any ties.

By thwarting a Republican takeover in Virginia, the Democrats also delivered a sharp blow to Governor George F. Allen, who had sought to turn the election into a midterm referendum on his administration. He had counted on a Republican legislature to win approval of elements of his program that have been blocked.

"This was a rejection of the Gingrich revolution," Mr. Beyer said. "People want change, but they want to be sensible. You can't cut your way to prosperity. George Allen will have to work with Democrats to pursue mainstream policies."

Halley Barbour, chairman of the Republican National Committee, sought to play down the nationwide results. "It's a very good year for us," he said, "though I wish we could have won them all."

But Democrats, while acknowledging that local issues dominated the scattered elections, sought to draw national conclusions on the outcome.

Even as he savored the victory, Donald L. Fowler, national chairman of the Democratic National Committee, agreed that the Kentucky race was fought on Kentucky issues. But trying to have it both ways, he said, "The contention that somehow there's a Republican tide sweeping the country is just malarkey."

In Kentucky, the contest was as much about local issues like roads and taxes as about national concerns. Both Mr. Patton and Mr. Forgy sought to make it a referendum on the stewardship of Mr. Gingrich and the Republican Party nationally. Still, it was hard to read too much into the outcome, particularly since it was so close.

Mr. Barbour pooh-poohed any national implication. "That was a pretty tall mountain and we made it almost to the top," he said. He accused the Democrats of staging "a negative, personal smear attack" to hold on to the governor's office.

Despite his defeat, Mr. Forgy's showing was impressive. In the last two races for governor, the Republican candidates did not draw more than 35 percent in Kentucky.

Still, Tuesday's overall results were a blow to Republicans, who in 1993 won important mayoral races and governorships and last year won their party's first majorities in both houses of Congress in 40 years.

In Virginia, the national parties poured hundreds of thousands of dollars into the battle over the state legislature.

A former governor, L. Douglas Wilder, said Tuesday night: "This juggernaut some thought was sweeping the land got mired in Virginia. The voters said, 'Hold up, old buddy.' Governor Allen failed. He put everything on the line."

J. Scott Leake, director of the Joint Republican Caucus, countered that "Democrats really capitalized on fear in the closing days. Everything was what will happen if Republicans win. They were saying we were going to force people to lose homes." (WP, AP, NYT)



Paul Patton celebrating his victory over Larry Forgy on Tuesday to keep the Democrats' grip on the governor's office in Kentucky.

First City to Elect Black Mayor Picks White One

The Associated Press

GARY, Indiana — Nearly 30 years after Gary became the first major American city to elect a black mayor, residents have chosen a white man for the job, saying that change, not race, is what they care about.

The mayor-elect, a Democratic lawyer named Scott King who faced three black opponents, garnered more than seven times as many votes as his closest rival in

the Tuesday election. In his victory speech, Mr. King said that voters in Gary, which is 90 percent black, had focused more on the city's high crime rate and depressed economy than on race in choosing a mayor.

"It's not about race," Mr. King said. "This election is about all of us, all of us moving forward together."

Supporters said they hoped Mr. King's large margin of victory would finally

silence questions of whether a white person should lead a black city.

Richard Hatcher, who became the first black mayor in a major American city when he was elected in 1967, was vocal in his opposition to Mr. King, as was the incumbent mayor, Thomas V. Barnes.

"They had a chance," said Calla Haggwood, who dismissed their arguments and voted for Mr. King. "King is the best man for the job."

So, What's Become of the Tax Break?

A Few Will Get Windfalls, but Most Won't Be Affected

By David E. Rosen
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — In the political crossfire over the Republicans' tax cuts that are now making their way through Congress, a crucial point has been overlooked: Most Americans' taxes would not be affected one way or the other.

A computer analysis shows that the big budget bill passed by the Senate last month would not change the taxes paid by 68 million households, or 55 percent of all of those in the United States. That is mainly because these families include no children under 18 and sold no investments during the year.

About 13 million households, or 10 percent, would have their taxes increased or would receive a smaller payment from the government under the earned-income tax credit than they would otherwise receive. This figure will almost certainly drop before the bill becomes law.

Middle-class families with several children and wealthy investors can expect windfalls.

But for most of the 43 million taxpayers who would get a tax break, the amount would be quite small. For instance, according to the Treasury, the average tax cut under the Senate bill for a family earning \$30,000 to \$50,000 would be \$249 next year — about 68 cents a day, or less than enough to buy a soda out of many machines.

The computer analysis was conducted by Citizens for Tax Justice, a union-sponsored research organization, using government data. Tax specialists in Congress and the treasury department do not take issue with the analysis.

In the congressional debate on the budget legislation, the tax measures were often made to seem more consequential than they really are.

For instance, Senator Spencer Abraham, a first-term Republican from Michigan, declared, "In part, I came here to the U.S. Senate and ran for this office so that families who are sending too many of their dollars to Washington would get a chance to

keep more of what they earn." On the other side, many Democrats stated or implied that more than half of all taxpayers — those with incomes below \$30,000 — would have a tax increase under the Republicans' plan, an assertion that was based on a misreading of statistics developed by the congressional tax staff.

In fact, the proportion would be no more than 10 percent and might be as low as 1.5 percent, depending on how "tax increase" is defined.

The details of the tax legislation must still be worked out in the Senate-House conference committee on the budget legislation. But two main provisions seem certain to be in the final measure: a \$500-per-child tax credit for middle-income taxpayers and a reduction in the maximum tax rate on capital gains — the profits from the sale of investments — to 19.8 percent from the current 28 percent.

That means that taxpayers in specific circumstances can expect a windfall in the years ahead, assuming the overall

budget is enacted. For example, a family that consists of two schoolteachers earning \$35,000 apiece who have three children younger than 18 — a middle-class family by any reasonable definition. If they have no other income, this family can expect to pay about \$7,000 in federal income taxes this year. But if they get a \$500 tax cut for each child next year, their income taxes would be reduced by \$1,500, or more than 20 percent.

Wealthy investors are the other category of taxpayers who would stand to benefit most from the legislation. For instance, someone who sold \$1 million worth of stock that cost \$500,000 would save \$41,000 in taxes — the difference between a tax rate of 28 percent and one of 19.8 percent on a profit of \$500,000.

POLITICAL NOTES

Senate Delays Vote on Abortion

WASHINGTON — Abortion-rights proponents won their effort Wednesday to delay Senate action on a bill banning some rare late-term abortions until hearings are held.

Before a vote could be taken to send the bill to the Judiciary Committee, the measure's sponsor heeded the advice of the Senate majority leader, Bob Dole, and gave up his effort to prevent hearings.

"Senator Dole and I have discussed this and while neither one of us thinks this is necessary, we do think it may not be a bad idea in that the more one learns about this horrible procedure, the harder it is to defend it," said the bill's sponsor, Bob Smith, Republican of New Hampshire.

The Senate voted, 91 to 6, to give the committee 19 days in which to hold hearings.

Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania, a candidate for his party's presidential nomination, had led the effort to defer the measure by sending it to the Judiciary Committee for hearings. President Bill Clinton opposes the bill. The House has already approved it.

Proponents in the Senate objected to the delay, saying hearings were not necessary because the House had already devoted a day to testimony.

Mr. Smith threatened to attach his bill to other legislation unless it was given a vote on its own merits.

The bill would impose a two-year prison term and fines on any doctor who "partially delivers the living fetus before killing the fetus and completing the delivery."

The doctor also would be liable for civil damages if sued by the woman's family. The bill provides, however, that during court proceedings an acceptable defense would be that the procedure was necessary to save the mother's life. (AP)

Gingrich Shrugs Off Veto Threat

WASHINGTON — The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, shrugged off a suggestion from the White House on Wednesday that President Bill Clinton would veto any spending or borrowing bill that binds his hands in his budget duel with Congress.

"I'd like to negotiate with the president," said Mr. Gingrich, Republican of Georgia. "Idly sitting down at the White House issuing veto threats is not a very useful step towards governing."

Mr. Clinton's press secretary, Michael McCurry, had suggested that the president would veto any bill that contained controversial extra provisions or restricted the administration's ability to juggle the books to stave off default. "The president is not going to let them use default to try to accomplish other issues," Mr. McCurry said. "He's also not going to let them, in the process of dealing with default, ruin this government's ability to regulate its own financial affairs."

With government spending and borrowing authority about to expire, a bill raising the nation's debt limit until Dec. 12 was expected to reach the House floor on Thursday. But House conservatives were prepared to demand add-ons such as the elimination of the Commerce Department and the restriction of appeals by many criminal defendants. (AP)

Quote / Unquote

Steve Merrill, governor of New Hampshire, endorsing Bob Dole for president on Wednesday, giving the Republican front-runner a boost in the leadoff primary state at a time when his poll numbers have slipped: "I believe if you want to live in land of the free, you must also live in the home of the brave, and my friend Bob Dole is a brave American." (AP)

Away From Politics

• Lawyers for the families of Ronald L. Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson have filed papers in court strongly opposing the request of O.J. Simpson that all pretrial proceedings, including his deposition, in their wrongful death cases be kept secret. "We will resist Mr. Simpson's attempt to conduct this lawsuit in secrecy," said Daniel M. Petrocelli, the attorney who represents Fred Goldman, Ronald Goldman's father. (LAT)

• Four youths with razor-blade cutters attacked a 45-year-old man and stole his artificial leg, leaving him bleeding on the street in New York. An ambulance crew later found John Hammonds, who had lost his leg to cancer years ago, crawling away for help. The attackers, ages 15 to 20, were arrested after another man's cheek was slashed for 30 cents, the Daily News reported. They were charged with first-degree robbery and assault. (AP)

• Storms and tornadoes that whipped across Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina crushed mobile homes, injured dozens of people and ripped off roofs. A twister in Albany, Georgia, injured at least 30 people and caused millions of dollars in damage. In South Carolina, 22 people in 16 counties were injured. (AP)

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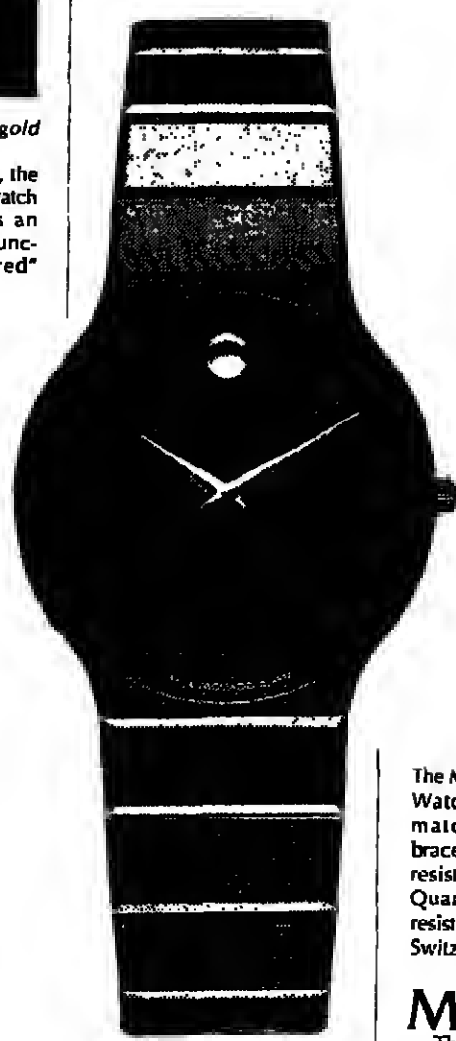
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ASIA

Executives Grilled In Seoul Inquiry

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL — Some of the leading figures in the South Korean business community, including an in-law of former President Roh Tae Woo, were brought in for questioning Wednesday in a probe of Mr. Roh's allegedly amassed funds, and a prosecutor said the giant Daewoo Group was deeply involved.

The opposition, meanwhile, dismissed the investigation as "a charade." Prosecution authorities confirmed reports that they had evidence that the Daewoo (business) Group was involved in helping Mr. Roh launder \$39 million of the \$650-million slush fund he amassed while in office from 1987 to 1993.

A smaller group, Hanbo, helped Mr. Roh launder another \$79 million and hid the money in its bank accounts, prosecutors said.

The most conspicuous of the country's six high-profile business leaders questioned on Wednesday was an in-law of the former president — Shin Myoung Soo, owner of the Dong Bang Corporation.

Mr. Shin, the father-in-law of Mr. Roh's son, was quietly summoned to the Prosecutor General's Office for questioning on prime real estate, including office blocks and golf

courses, that the group bought in the early 1990s. It is thought that these were acquired with Mr. Roh's slush money, a senior prosecutor said.

Mr. Shin's daughter is married to Mr. Roh's son, Jae Hun, who earlier this year joined the ruling Democratic Liberal Party with an eye to the National Assembly elections scheduled for next April.

Aggressive property investments by the Dong Bang group, built around its edible oil firm, have long triggered rumors that the group might be operating a slush fund for Mr. Roh.

The opposition dismissed the summoning of business leaders as a charade aimed at clouding the overriding issue of whether the incumbent president, Kim Young Sam, received slush money from Mr. Roh for his 1992 campaign.

Political commentators said the government hoped that the pardoning of business leaders would give ordinary Koreans a taste of vengeance against the chaebol, or conglomerates, whose close ties with former military-backed governments have never been a secret.

Prosecutors said the business leaders were suspected of offering kickbacks or donations to Mr. Roh, who has confessed to amassing a \$650-million



BATTILING IN TAIPEI — Supporters of Huang Huang-hsiung, leader of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party, fighting with police Wednesday in front of the governing Kuomintang's headquarters. They demand that President Lee Teng-hui, chairman of the Kuomintang, make public the party's financial assets.

slush fund while in office from 1987 to 1993.

On Wednesday, prosecutors questioned five other leaders of the South Korean business world, including the owners of Samsung, Dong-A, LG, Daewoo and Hanil groups, on suspicion

that they might have offered bribes to Mr. Roh in return for government favors.

Five more have been summoned for Thursday.

The LG Group owner, Koo Ja Kyung, was the first to return home Wednesday after seven

hours of questioning. The Samsung owner, Lee Kim Hee, had still not emerged late in the evening.

Also summoned Wednesday was the Hyundai honorary chairman, Chung Ju Yung, who told prosecutors he would submit himself on Thursday.

Two other big names in South Korean business, the Daewoo Group leader, Kim Woo Jung, and the Lotte Group owner, Shin Kyuk-Ho, were summoned on Wednesday, but both are abroad.

BRIEFLY ASIA

8 Timorese Flown to Portugal

JAKARTA — Eight East Timorese men who sought asylum in the Dutch Embassy left Jakarta on Wednesday evening on a flight to Portugal via Amsterdam, an official of the International Committee of the Red Cross said.

The official, Henri Fournier, head of the committee's delegation in Jakarta, said: "On the request of the Dutch government and with the full acceptance of the Indonesian authorities, the ICRC has been asked to facilitate the immigration to Portugal of these eight persons from East Timor." He said Portugal, the former colonial power in East Timor, had pledged to accept them. (AFP)

Malaysia Seeks to Defuse Critics

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia said Wednesday it had stepped up efforts to create a "Malaysian Page" on the Internet to counter criticism in the foreign press, just days after threatening to ban Asiaweek, a regional newsmagazine, for alleged slander.

"We will use the Internet to overcome the problem of confusing reports on Malaysia made by groups bent on undermining the confidence of investors in the country and its leadership," Information Minister Mohamed Rahmat was quoted as saying by the Bernama news agency. (AFP)

Interference in Tibet Is Denied

BEIJING — China has rejected allegations of religious repression in Tibet, saying that citizens were free to choose and practice their faith and accusing critics of trying to bring the region under foreign control.

The article in the Oct. 30 edition of the Tibet Daily, seen here Wednesday, appeared ahead of a secretive meeting that began Monday in Beijing and is believed to be focused on the controversial selection of the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, Tibet's second-highest religious leader. (AFP)

China Faults Factory Polluters

BEIJING — China's mushrooming township enterprises are emitting "dangerous" levels of pollution, with 20 million ventures spewing out 4.3 billion tons of waste water last year, reports said Wednesday.

Entrepreneurs pay too much attention to profit and growth rates while neglecting the impact of their activities on the environment, the Guangming Daily quoted Xia Haiyong, a professor at Nanjing University, as saying. (AFP)

VOICES From Asia

Fidel V. Ramos, president of the Philippines, partly blaming some officials for the high death toll from the typhoon designated Angela and threatening to take them to court for negligence: "How many years have we been talking about disaster preparedness? After several years we expected every municipality to have a preparedness and action plan." (AFP)

Ian Perkin, chief economist of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, about Hong Kong's 3.5 percent unemployment rate, which is high, historically, for Hong Kong and has prompted populist calls for legislative action: "It's a beautiful political issue. It's a dreadful economic issue." (Bloomberg)

Sri Lankans Reject Relief Agencies' Plea Aid to Refugees Is Blocked

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

COLOMBO — As its advancing troops tightened their grip on the rebel-held city of Jaffna, the government has rejected appeals from the United Nations and international relief agencies for permission to mount stepped-up independent operations to care for tens of thousands of people who have fled the fighting.

Instead, President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga has announced that all food, shelter and medical care must be funneled through the government's own relief operation.

The president's move may put at risk some of the growing support her 15-month-old government has received from Western countries in its effort to defeat the rebels.

It came after a three-week government military offensive on the Jaffna Peninsula at the northern tip of this island country that has dramatically altered the balance of the war with the rebels' organization, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

In fighting that has caused at least 5,000 casualties on the two sides, government troops have arrived, and temporarily halted, almost at the gates of the city of Jaffna, where the Tiger rebels, fighting for an independent state for Sri Lanka's Tamil minority, have made their headquarters for five years.

Many Tamils who live in the peninsula, between 100,000 and 400,000 according to various estimates, have moved eastward from Jaffna into areas of the region still under rebel control.

Relief agencies, supported by accounts given by refugees arriving in government-held areas south of the peninsula, have spoken of vast encampments of people living in the open, in monsoon rains, with little food, shelter, or medical care.

Some accounts have warned of a risk of endemic diseases, including diarrhea and cholera.

UN relief agencies joined a number of relief organizations active in Sri Lanka during the 12-year-old conflict, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, to request the government's help in mounting emergency operations to deliver supplies across government lines into rebel-held areas.

After a meeting Monday at Temple Trees, Mrs. Kumaratunga's heavily fortified residence in Colombo, the re-

quests were turned down. Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar said at a news conference that the government was skeptical that the agencies would run relief operations impartially and suspicious that large amounts of aid would be diverted to rebel military units.

Call for a Cease-Fire

Moderate Tamil groups on Wednesday called for an immediate cease-fire in the war and said the flight of refugees from the rebel-held north was out of control, Reuters reported.

"The loss of life has been unprecedentedly heavy," the groups said in a statement, and "people are facing starvation."

Hanoi Sees Spratly Talks With Manila

Agence France-Presse

HANOI — Vietnam and the Philippines have agreed to resolve peacefully disputes about the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea, the Nhan Dan newspaper reported Wednesday.

The official organ of the Communist Party said that the two sides would settle disputes over the Spratlys "through peaceful negotiations in a spirit of friendship and equality, and in accordance with the United Nations 1982 convention on the law of the sea."

The report followed talks in Hanoi on Monday and Tuesday between the Vietnamese deputy foreign minister, Vu Khoan, and his Philippine counterpart, Rodolfo Severino.

The meeting, the fourth annual bilateral talks between the two countries, focused on the Spratlys and the South China Sea.

The archipelago, thought to be rich in oil, is claimed in whole or part by Brunei, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam. It is considered a potential military flashpoint.

The two men stressed their countries' commitment to making the islands an area of peace, stability, cooperation and development, and urged all concerned parties to respect basic international principles governing the sea.

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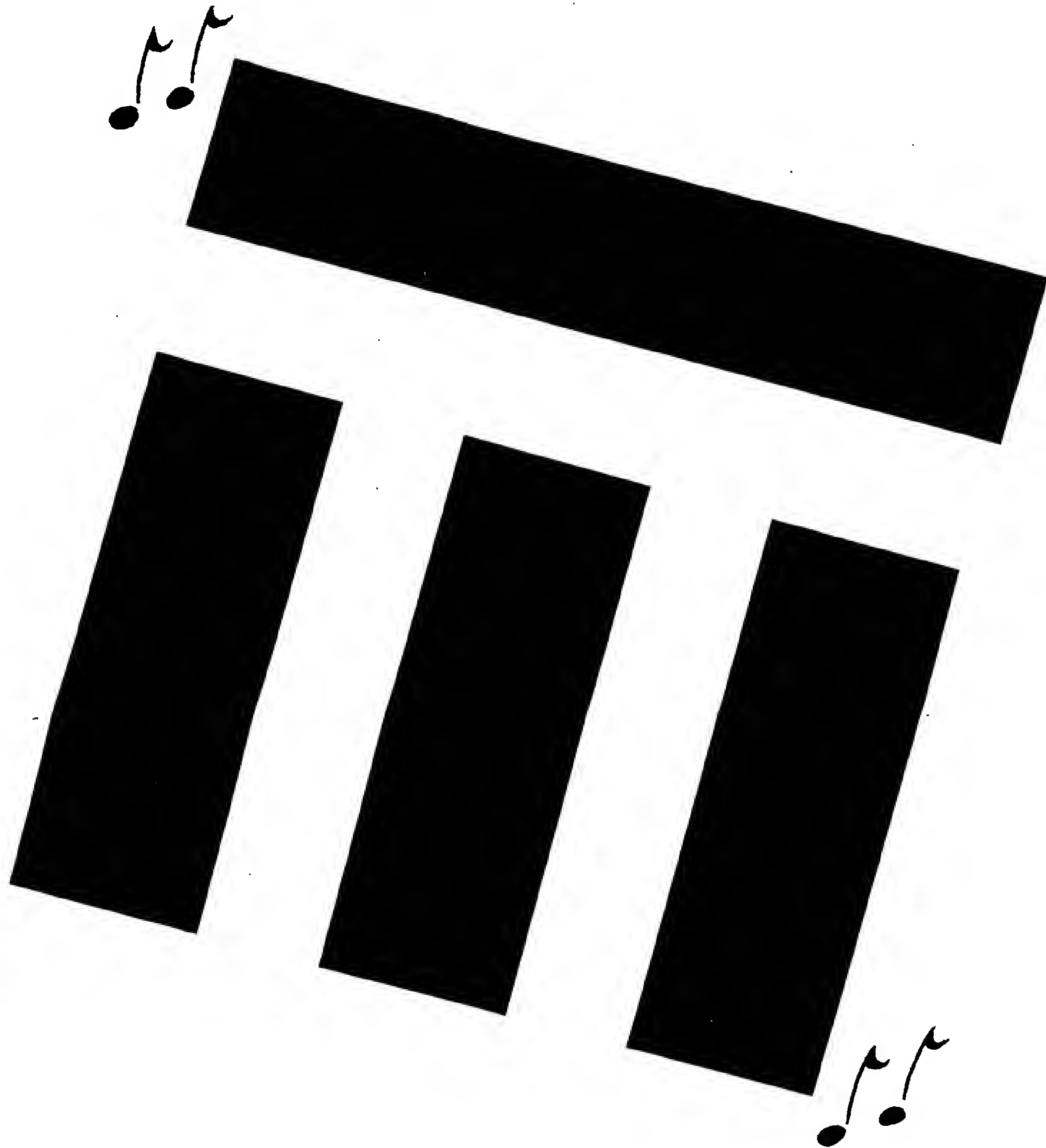
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INTERNATIONAL

In Death, Rabin Inspires the Young Tears Amid Many Candles

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

TEL AVIV — Perhaps it was the moment when Yitzhak Rabin's granddaughter broke down and sobbed at his funeral. Perhaps it was a phenomenon that had already been building in the peace songs and the rallies that preceded his death.

However it is explained, the assassination of the Israeli leader has inspired something close to a spiritual fervor among many of Israel's young people that many other Israelis regard as extraordinary — a blend of adulation and idealistic political belief borne by a sense of deep, personal loss.

If there are defining images of the nation's grief, they lie in the visions of young people lighting countless candles at makeshift memorials in central Tel Aviv and in the catch of the granddaughter's voice at the funeral Monday, when the 18-year-old, Noa Ben-Artzi, spoke of Mr. Rabin as "the pillar of fire before the camp."

"I felt that she said things that many of us thought were right," said Noam Bacharach, 14, a high school student who went Wednesday to deliver a condolence letter to the Rabin's high-rise apartment house in a rainy Tel Aviv suburb.

"When he was shot, we felt we lost a part of ourselves, that we lost a grandfather, too."

For some, the torrent of young emotion represents a benchmark change. "When he fell as a victim," said Mr. Rabin's widow, Leah, the spectacle of "all those children and all those young coming up to speak for him and what he was doing" showed that something had shifted.

"We are living in something that was not true two days ago," she said. By contrast, in the most cynical of views, the passions are restricted to young, secular people, and reflect a display of sentiment that has occurred simply because young people gather instinctively, whether at a rock concert or schoolyard, because emotion is the currency of adolescence.

Yet, in Israel, teenage years have harsher connotations than in many other countries: from the age of 18, every Israeli must serve three years in the army.

The peace that Mr. Rabin promised, thus, represented the offer of a new life without military duty, disruption and danger — an offer that is perceived by many to have been withdrawn or at least cast into doubt.

"If there is going to be peace, the next generation is the one

that is going to make the changes," said Saev Sagor, 18, a student who is to start military service in two weeks and does not relish the idea.

"People are really scared of going into the military," he said. "You are going to fight for your life every day."

Roten Albelda, 23, said, "It's like there's a big hole in me, or a big ball of confusion and fear." Mr. Albelda, an El Al airline steward who, with Mr. Sagor, fumbled to light a candle in the newly renamed Yitzhak Rabin Square in central Tel Aviv on Wednesday. It was there that the Israeli leader was shot to death by another young Israeli, 25-year-old Yigal Amir, on Saturday night. "I really trusted him," Mr. Albelda said of Mr. Rabin. "I trusted the way he was leading us."

Tom Segev, an author and columnist, wrote in Ha'aretz newspaper that "the most surprising thing this week was the readiness of young people to adopt Rabin as their hero."

"They sat around candles, wrote down songs on paper, scorched the edges of it and placed them in front of themselves as if they were sacred."

"Maybe, who knows, the children thought that Rabin was giving them a new world without basic training in Gaza," he wrote. In Yitzhak Rabin Square — formerly Kings of Israel Square — thousands of candles burned, but squalls of rain sweeping in from the Mediterranean quenched many of them. Still, though, as the rain eased into crystal, winter sunshine, people still made their pilgrimages to light the candles anew.

ISRAEL: 2 New Suspects Are Arrested in the Assassination of Rabin

Continued from Page 1

as Mr. Rabin descended into the basement parking lot, for not guarding his back and for not calling the hospital as Mr. Rabin's car rushed him there.

In addition, the report criticized Shin Bet for lacking intelligence information on radical anti-Arab groups.

The government also moved to protect itself against further violence. Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair warned the public that the assassination might inspire copycat killings.

"There is a serious danger of a grave disruption of the rule of order — up to the point of an other political murder," he said in an interview with the newspaper Ha'aretz.

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said: "We have to

act against all those who in-

duce in incitement to murder or violence the peace or endanger democracy. Up until now, the police, the prosecution and the attorney general have not prosecuted those who committed incitement, including incitement to murder."

Grief over Mr. Rabin's death apparently has not altered the rhetoric of some who opposed his peace efforts.

The police were searching for several rabbis who they said had distributed leaflets saying that Mr. Rabin's murder was sanctioned under Jewish law.

And they detained one rabbi from southern Israel, accusing him of incitement by praising Mr. Rabin's assassin. His name was not released.

Noam Federman, a spokes-

man for the Kach movement

founded by Kahane, suggested that Mr. Peres should have reason to fear for his life because of his role in peacemaking with the Palestinians.

He said Mr. Peres was vulnerable because Israelis have been killed by Palestinians who oppose peace.

"Any Jew that brings other Jews to a situation where they are afraid to take buses, afraid to walk on the street, any leader that does that has to be afraid that someone will get upset and kill him," Mr. Federman said.

In the settlement of Kiryat Arba, a Kahane supporter said he expected the outlawed group to keep up its call for violence against the government.

And at a Jewish seminary in Tappan, students paid homage to the gunman.

A drawing on a bookstand



An agent patrolling Wednesday outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem as the Israeli cabinet was meeting.

Only Jewish Extremists Back Killer's View of Law

By Debbi Wilgoren
Washington Post Service

Yigal Amir's claim that Jewish law obligated him to kill Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin echoes the most extreme possible interpretation of ancient biblical and religious texts, and it is anathema to all but the most radical fringe of Orthodox Jews, according to interviews with rabbis and Middle East scholars.

Mr. Amir sickened Jews around the world by announcing in a Tel Aviv courtroom Monday that "the murder was my obligation" according to religious law. But those who have studied the growth of religious extremism in Israel and among American Jews said his declaration was rooted in radical moral codes outlined in the last two years by a handful of rabbis determined

to prevent the loss of land they consider sacred in exchange for a promise of peace they consider impossible.

To them, the 73-year-old warhero was abandoning their cause for that of the Palestinians, whom they call a modern Amalek, the nation that battled against the ancient Israelites as they fled bondage in Egypt and whose memory God ordered Moses to "utterly blot out."

These zealots considered Mr. Rabin a traitor or "pursuer" intent on eroding the Jewish state, the rabbis and professors said, adding that the eminent 12th century scholar Maimonides said that a traitor must be killed if doing so will prevent others from being harmed.

"According to Jewish law, any one person who willfully, consciously, intentionally hands over human bodies or human property or the human wealth of

the Jewish people to an alien people is guilty of the sin for which the penalty is death," the far-right Rabbi Avraham Hecht of Brooklyn told New York Magazine in October, explaining why he declared in June that Mr. Rabin should be killed. "And according to Maimonides — you can quote me — it says very clearly: 'If a man kills him, he has done a good deed.'"

Across the United States and Israel, hundreds of Orthodox rabbis decried this interpretation as blasphemous.

Those who would support Mr. Amir are taking rabbinical law out of context, several rabbis and Jewish studies professors said, and are misusing the law to justify extreme political positions.

An individual is not qualified to declare a political opponent a traitor, these experts said. Even if he were, they said,

violence is justified only if there is no other way to stop a threat, such as elections or political demonstrations and discourse.

"A guy who does this is not Orthodox," said Rabbi Steven Dworkin, executive director of the 1,000-member Rabbinical Council of America, which condemned anti-Rabin rhetoric before the slaying.

Middle East scholars agreed that those who condone Mr. Rabin's slaying make up the barest fraction of the tens of thousands of Orthodox Jews who oppose the peace talks on religious grounds. But they said Mr. Amir's action could be seen as the most extreme extension possible of the Messianic religious rhetoric that has fueled the Orthodox Zionist settler movement since Israel captured the West Bank in 1967.

SCAM: Easy Pickings

Continued from Page 1

fund and lure investors into an imaginary oil farm.

"I expect we are going to have a lot more of this," predicted the commissioner of securities in Texas, Denny Crawford.

Though regulators are learning quickly about the scams, they have not found ways to stop all of them.

"With a 'boiler room,' Ms. Crawford said, meaning a place where "investments" are sold by phone, "you have a physical location you can track down. Sometimes it's very difficult to figure out where an electronic message emanated. It can take substantial resources to track it down."

And, she said, computers and on-line communication can lend credibility to an investment scheme that more savvy people might otherwise avoid.

"Generally, people are sophisticated enough to know they should be very skeptical of people who call on the phone. But when one sits down in front of a computer screen, one's defenses tend to drop."

The incentive can be rewarding to the thief.

Richard Adelman of the Boston office of the SEC said: "If you have an Internet connection and can get your ad out and hundreds of thousands of people read it, all you need is a few to make money."

This week the SEC obtained a court order against a German woman, Reneta Haag, who it contends took in more than \$1 million selling notes that promised investors returns of 200 percent to 400 percent a year. The commission claims that she worked with associates in Missouri and North Carolina who used investor areas on CompuServe and America Online to contact investors.

An investment offer that is posted on a computer network is subject to state securities laws in any state where it can be received, regulators said.

So, most on-line investment scams can be prosecuted under existing mail and wire fraud laws, they said. But they have to find them first.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

Berlusconi Group Fails to Agree on Coming Budget Vote

Reuters

ROME — Italy's center-right political grouping led by former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi failed to agree on Wednesday over a key parliamentary vote on the government's 1996 budget.

Mr. Berlusconi, in a statement issued at a meeting with other party leaders in his Freedom Alliance political grouping, said the center-right would support the budget, currently before the Senate, only if radical changes were made.

"The Freedom Alliance will vote against the budget unless the amendments made to it are so radical and so much in line with our own program and our own ideas as to allow us to make a different appraisal of

the package," Mr. Berlusconi said.

His position appeared contrary to that of his moderate allies, who have said that the group should be more open-minded about improving and then backing the budget.

Raffaele Costa, leader of the Federalists and Liberal Democrats, said, "There are important issues on which we are substantially in agreement, and there are other not-unimportant aspects on which we must still establish a common position."

Mr. Costa said one area still undecided was whether the Freedom Alliance would present amendments to the budget when it reaches the Chamber of Deputies later this month as a unified group or whether each party in the alliance would suggest its own changes.

The budget has to be ratified by the Senate by Nov. 16. It is then scheduled to pass to the lower chamber for debate on Nov. 20.

Prime Minister Lamberto Dini should have no problem getting the draft budget law accepted in the Senate, where his center-left supporters can muster a majority.

But he faces a much tougher fight in the lower chamber, where the Freedom Alliance, together with the Marxist Communist Refoundation, have the votes to kill the package.

Mr. Dini, whose budget aims to trim next year's deficit by 32.5 trillion lire (\$20.4 billion), has said passage is crucial for Italy's economy.

Mr. Dini has said he would resign at the end of the year once the budget is adopted.

EUROPEAN TOPICS

Keeping a Memory Of Old Berlin Wall

The hated Berlin Wall was still a fresh memory when Berliners began planning ways to mark its path, for memory's sake. Within six months of the first symbolic breaching of the wall, in 1989, one million tons of concrete had been disposed of; selected pieces were sold to memento hunters, but most was crushed and used for paving material.

Today, only two portions of the main wall still stand (on Bernauer Strasse and Niederkirchner Strasse); only one of 215 watchtowers is still in place. Tourists wander, sometimes in vain, in search of vestiges.

There has been no shortage of ideas for marking the wall's course.

Several artists proposed in April 1990 that it be painted in lupine, with its white, rose, yellow or blue flowers. One woman suggested a "silvery band" of aluminum; another artist wanted a colorful concrete mosaic. Last November, copper bands were installed over one short stretch of the wall.

But most of those who spoke at a hearing in June on how best to mark the wall pleaded for a sober approach, reports the weekly magazine Der Spiegel. This could well be an idea pushed by Albert Eckert, a German cultural spokesman: a double row of cobblestones.

"It's a material very typical of Berlin," says Mr. Eckert.

Meanwhile, the remaining fragments of the wall have taken on new importance.

"Anyone who has not seen the wall," said Manfred Fischer, a priest whose East Berlin church, in the wall's shadow, was dynamited by authorities in

1985, "cannot understand the postwar history of Germany."

Around Europe

Lively competition — make that fierce competition — will hit French funeral homes Jan. 1, when a law deregulating the death business takes effect. Key players have wasted no time. In July, SCI, a big American company with branches in Canada and Britain, bought out the funeral subsidiary of Lyonnais des Eaux, which had been losing market share. The Pompes Funeraires Europeennes and its allied Roc'Eclerc have built a 5 percent share of this 5 billion franc market, which includes coffins, hearses and rental of casket bearers. But deregulation is expected to profit the many small providers. The fight will be over a shrinking pie — people are living longer in France, home of Jeanne Calment, the world's oldest living person. And it will be at least five years before the graying of the Baby Boom allows business to pick up again.

A Dutch court dropped a murder charge this week against a doctor accused of killing a severely deformed newborn. The ruling by the Amsterdam Court of Appeal further erodes the country's strict limitations on euthanasia. Government guidelines demand that patients repeatedly and lucidly ask for death. Tuesday's decision — in the case of a 3-day-old suffering in excruciating pain from severe brain, spinal and leg deformities — was seen as opening the door to so-called mercy killings of those unable to ask for death.

Euthanasia is still technically illegal in the Netherlands. But doctors who follow the guidelines are virtually guaranteed of immunity from prosecution.

International Herald Tribune

UNION: Kohl on France

Continued from Page 1

bound to Maastricht and now have important work to do to prepare a joint position with France."

Mr. Kohl said Germany would probably not be able to get all it wanted at an inter-governmental conference next year but would push for further European integration in areas like crime and immigration.

"We need to take another decisive step," he said.

Mr. Kohl again called for both a deepening and a widening of the EU, repeating that Germany's eastern border must not constitute the Union's eastern border.

He added that there could be no political union without economic and monetary union.

But he said Germany had to move "step by step" in winning its partners over to the German point of view.

He also said the fact that only Germany and Luxembourg fulfilled the Maastricht treaty economic criteria for joining in a single currency was "momentary."

He also repeated that it was impossible to imagine one without France.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

NATO: Russia Agrees to Let Its Troops Serve in U.S. Division in Bosnia

Continued from Page 1

that the two will both be done," a Defense Department official said.

Russian officials insist that the United Nations should have overall political control over the mission, and France has also made similar arguments.

The United States and most of the rest of the allies believe all NATO needs is a Security Council resolution authorizing deployment of the force. The NATO allies have agreed that UN officials would not have any ability to interfere with mil-

itary operations of the NATO peacekeeping force once it goes in after a settlement is reached in Bosnia.

Mr. Perry and General Grachev said that the commander of the Russian force, Colonel General Leontii P. Shevtsov, would take orders directly from the commanding general of the American division with which the Russians would serve.

That is Major General William Nash, commander of the 1st Armored Division, based in Germany, who would take his orders from the Amer-

ican general in charge of the peacekeeping force, General George A. Joulwan.

But the Russians would turn a blind eye to the fact that General Joulwan would be commanding the peacekeepers in his role as supreme NATO military commander in Europe, American officials said.

The United States has insisted that the peacekeeping force, expected to number 60,000 troops in all, had to be under clear and unambiguous NATO command but does not require Russian forces to be under NATO command. "Mr. Perry said,

N. Yeltsin, insisted that his forces could never serve as subordinates of the alliance he and many of his compatriots saw as their principal adversary during the Cold War.

The resolution by Mr. Perry and General Grachev on their third meeting on the subject was largely sleight of hand, made easier perhaps by the small size of the Russian contingent and perhaps by the fact that Mr. Yeltsin is ailing.

"The plan preserves unity of command but does not require Russian forces to be under NATO command," Mr. Perry said.

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INTERNATIONAL



Mr. McNamara returning to his hotel in Hanoi on Wednesday after talks at the Institute for Foreign Relations.

A Call to 'Draw the Lessons of Vietnam'

McNamara, in Hanoi, Delivers Anti-War Message

Agence France-Presse
HANOI — Robert S. McNamara, the U.S. defense secretary during the Vietnam War, told his former enemies Wednesday that the conflict he helped to escalate should be a lesson for humanity in the next millennium.

Mr. McNamara, 79, spent almost three hours talking to students and experts at the Foreign Ministry's Institute for International Relations.

"We have to draw the lessons of the Vietnam War to avoid other wars in the next century," a Vietnamese source quoted him as saying.

Mr. McNamara reportedly said that the United States had "underestimated the fighting spirit" of the Vietnamese people.

He played a major role in escalating the war in his 1961-1968 tenure at the Pentagon, but acknowledged this year in his memoirs, "In Retrospect," that decision-making in Washington had been riddled with errors. Mr. McNamara's book, greeted with widespread indignation in the United States, described the war as "a tragic mistake."

A Vietnamese diplomat described Mr. McNamara as a "historic figure" and

said that his visit was "overwhelmingly symbolic and emotional, as he no longer carries any political weight."

"If he had come before the normalization of ties, it would have been far more important," the diplomat said.

The United States and Vietnam completed the normalization of relations three

'If he had come before the normalization of ties, it would have been far more important.'

months ago, after the 20th anniversary of the fall of Saigon.

Mr. McNamara arrived in Vietnam late Tuesday to help organize a conference on the Vietnam War to be held next year involving several of the key players in the conflict.

The emotional climax of the visit is likely to come Thursday, when Mr. McNamara is to meet with his former enemy, General Vo Nguyen Giap, now 83.

2 Dissidents Sentenced

Vietnam sentenced two longtime Communist dissidents to prison Wednesday on charges of acting against the interests of the state, and the family of one of them was quoted as saying he might not survive the sentence, Reuters reported from Hanoi.

Hoang Minh Chinh, 76, and Do Trung Hien, 57, were imprisoned for 12 months and 15 months respectively, a court official said. He said both would be given 15 days to appeal their sentences.

Mr. Chinh, a former head of the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Philosophy, was first arrested in June.

His family said that he had been accused of having circulated a petition calling for the rehabilitation of more than 30 senior officials purged during the 1960s.

Mr. Hien, a former soldier and war veterans' activist, was arrested at the same time, reportedly for distributing anti-communist propaganda.

A Paris-based group, Alliance Vietnam Liberté, quoted Mr. Chinh's family and a doctor as saying there were serious concerns about his health and that he might not survive his prison term.

UN Hears of Iraq Radiation Bomb

Probe Finds Baghdad Looked Into Rare Weapon

By Robin Wright
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — In a new revelation about Iraq's weapons programs, the chief UN weapons inspector, Rolf Ekeus, has told the Security Council that Baghdad experimented with a radiological weapon, a rare tool of warfare because of its unstable nature.

The weapon would take material heavily radiated in a reactor and disperse it in the air or over the ground to sicken or kill opposition forces.

The damage from the explosion in 1986 of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor in Ukraine was due to the dispersal of highly radioactive particles — the same

principle as the proposed Iraqi weapon. UN officials said after Mr. Ekeus's briefing Tuesday.

The United Nations is still in the first stages of uncovering details of the program and does not yet know the extent of Baghdad's experiments. But recently uncovered documents show it was part of Iraq's crash weapons program.

A UN official said Tuesday: "All we know at this stage is that the Iraqis were interested in irradiating material and then dispersing it with traditional means of explosives — bombs or artillery shells."

Few countries have tried to develop radiological weapons. In the early 1980s, the United States and the Soviet Union

jointly proposed a treaty at disarmament talks in Geneva to prohibit their use. But the proposal never got anywhere.

During the Korean War, the United States reportedly toyed with the idea of developing a radiological weapon, but decided it would be too unstable and complicated, arms experts said. Radiological weapons are among the most dangerous to handle.

"Most people considered it a pretty dumb weapon," said Charles Duelfer, deputy chief arms inspector at the United Nations.

Radiological weapons are not covered under UN Resolution 687, which in 1991 called for the destruction of Iraq's weapons of

mass destruction, defined as nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and ballistic missiles.

Although the weapons do not cause nuclear explosions, Mr. Ekeus told the Security Council that they might be covered by a broad interpretation of Resolution 707, which deals with nuclear programs.

In an interview, Mr. Ekeus said Iraq had not yet provided any of the necessary documents to support its claims that it has destroyed biological weapons.

"We haven't seen the documentation, so that gives us cause for concern," he said. The Iraqis generally kept detailed records on the origin, manufacture, use and destruction of major weapons systems.

UN Retains Trade Ban Against Iraq

Reuters

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The Security Council on Wednesday left the five-year-old trade embargo against Iraq unchanged at its regular six-week review, diplomats said.

With United Nations inspectors still reviewing data on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, there was little chance that any council member would ask for an easing of any of the embargoes, particularly the ban on oil exports.

Iraq has been under sanctions since it invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Among the Security Council's demands is the scrapping of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, which is linked to the oil embargo.

Britain's chief delegate, Sir John Weston, said, "It is the will of the council to continue the existing sanctions."

He said that Iraq had not complied with arms demands, returned stolen property taken during its occupation of Kuwait or stopped its terrorist activities.

U.S. Justices, in Shift, Bolster Seizures of Criminal's Assets

By Joan Biskupic
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has strengthened the hand of prosecutors to seize a drug trafficker's property and possessions. The court ruled, 8 to 1, that after a criminal accepts a plea bargain, a judge need not determine whether all the assets seized by the government were tied to the defendant's crimes.

The justices also ruled that the defendant need not be told that he is waiving a right to a jury trial on the government's seizure of his property and bank accounts. The majority said forfeiture is an element of sentencing and, as such, is not covered by the constitutional right to a jury trial.

The ruling, arising from a Wyoming drug case, is a departure from the court's recent trend of placing limits on the government's ability to demand asset forfeitures as an element of criminal sentencing.

Defendants' rights advocates said the ruling may encourage

prosecutors to take cars, houses and other property that is not connected to the wrongdoing. Some of the proceeds from the sale of seized property often go to the prosecutors and police agencies involved in the case.

Justice John Paul Stevens, who dissented, cautioned that the decision could allow "a wealthy defendant [to] bargain for a light sentence by voluntarily 'forfeiting' property to which the government had no statutory entitlement."

The defendant in this case, Joseph Libretti, was charged in 1992 with several federal crimes arising from his alleged operation of a cocaine and marijuana distribution organization in Wyoming and Colorado. Four days into a trial, Mr. Libretti signed a plea agreement under which he agreed to plead guilty to engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise and give up several pieces of property, various firearms, bank accounts and other assets.

The government, in return, sought a sentence of 20 years in prison, at least 10 years less than

what Mr. Libretti would have gotten if he had been convicted on all the other charges. The plea deal also said Mr. Libretti waived his right to a jury trial, but the judge did not fully explain that he was also waiving a trial right on criminal forfeiture.

Among the property seized was land in Wyoming, two condominiums, two automobiles, a mobile home, computers, a diamond ring, cash and bank accounts. Mr. Libretti argued that the judge should have made factual findings on which items were actually tied to his crime.

In its ruling Tuesday, the Supreme Court said the federal statute on which Mr. Libretti relied for judicial fact-finding relates to a defendant's admission of guilt in a plea agreement.

A forfeiture provision embodied in a plea agreement is of an entirely different nature, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said for the majority. "Forfeiture is an element of the sentence imposed following conviction or, as here, a plea of guilty, and thus falls outside the scope" of the fact-finding rule at issue.



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Boost for War Crimes Panel

U.S. Gives In on Intelligence Data

Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches
WASHINGTON — The United States will supply the international tribunal investigating war crimes in the former Yugoslavia with any intelligence information relevant to its inquiries, the State Department said Wednesday.

The department's spokesman, Nicholas Burns, said: "If we have any information, whether it is open-source information, unclassified information, or intelligence information, that we believe is pertinent to the question of war crimes, we will find a way to get that to" Judge Richard Goldstone, the tribunal's.

Mr. Burns' statement was at

odds with the administration's attitude on Tuesday, when the White House press secretary, Michael McCurry, said there were "certain types of intelligence information that our government cannot share with the international community" for security reasons.

Mr. McCurry was commenting on reports that Judge Goldstone had complained to the United States that he was disappointed in the "quality and timeliness" of the information it was providing to the tribunal at The Hague.

Mr. Burns said that in providing information to the tribunal, Washington would seek to protect the sources. "But we

have an obligation to do this and we will do it," he added.

He said U.S. officials would pledge their readiness to provide all relevant information to Judge Goldstone when he visits Washington next week.

Meanwhile, as the Bosnian peace talks continued in Ohio, the Clinton administration appeared to be divided over comments made last week by Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher that two top Bosnian Serbian leaders would have to be removed from power.

He said that Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, both of whom have been charged with war crimes by the Goldstone tribunal, would have to go before NATO could send a peace force to the former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Burns said Tuesday that the statement represented official U.S. policy.

But other officials said Tuesday that he misspoke, and that such a position limited the flexibility of U.S. negotiators and put political constraints on a NATO military operation.

"The charitable thing to say is that the secretary didn't quite get it right," a senior official said. "Certainly it is something we all feel emotionally and morally. But it is not the U.S. government's position."

The lack of a unified position on deploying the NATO force — which would include up to 25,000 U.S. troops — reflects the tension between the urge to make peace at a time when the three Balkan presidents seem to want to do so and the desire to see that those responsible for atrocities are brought to justice. (Reuters, NYT)

Hungarian Leader Praises U.S. Role

International Herald Tribune
Gyula Horn is the prime minister of Hungary. He heads a Socialist-Liberal coalition that holds 72 percent of the seats in the Hungarian Parliament. Mr. Horn, who once also served as his country's foreign minister, spoke with Erik Ipsen of the *International Herald Tribune* in London.

Q. Are you encouraged by the opening of the Bosnian peace talks in Dayton?

A. I find it positive that American foreign policy has played such an outstanding and active role in this process.

Q. Are you disappointed that today you could not instead be praising the successful European efforts to end this conflict?

A. The European Union committed a lot of mistakes earlier, at the beginning of the 1990s. Earlier, the Americans committed many mistakes as well.

Q. Some observers have criticized the peace talks as bowing to the notion of partition and even of ethnic cleansing?

A. The ethnic composition in many areas has changed. Indeed it is not certain that everyone will be able to go back to their homeland, but the opportunity must be offered to them.

Q. How hopeful are you that the talks will succeed?

A. Late last month, I went to Belgrade. What I noted there was that the decisive majority, not counting the extremists, are interested in ending the war and in restoring peace. The economic sanctions have had a very severe impact on the Yugoslav economy, especially on the economy of Serbia, practically paralyzing it.

Q. What do you see as the key issues to be resolved in the talks?

A. In the course of discussions I have had both in Belgrade and in Zagreb a few basic issues have emerged. There is a need for a comprehensive settlement. That means that peacemaking in Bosnia-Herzegovina must include the reintegration of eastern Slavonia into Croatia.

A second element is the question of the refugees. The possibility has got to be created that the 1.5 million refugees should be able to return to their homeland. In order to achieve that, international guarantees have to be created. It is very important that those who return to their homeland should be able to live unarmed. This is a key issue of the whole settlement.

The third question is the recognition of the borders. Without recognizing the borders of Croatia there will be no lasting peace.

Next there is the need to restore normal economic conditions. This prospect may stimulate all the participating parties in the peace process.

And last, but not least, it is also an important element of the settlement to start negotiations on ways to control existing weapons.

Q. Looking now to your east, are you troubled by the situation in Russia where once again the country is in the hands of an ailing leader?

A. For a period of time we are dealing with a rather uncertain Russia. What we in the east-central European region are interested in is that the situation in Russia should be stabilized.

U.K. Holds New Suspect In French Bombings

LONDON — British police said Wednesday that a man identified as Rachid Ramda would appear in a London court Thursday charged with conspiring to cause an explosion in France.

Mr. Ramda, 26, was charged with "unlawfully and maliciously conspiring with others to cause an explosion of a nature likely to endanger life or cause serious injury to property" in France, a police spokeswoman said.

She did not give Mr. Ramda's nationality.

An extradition warrant has been issued for the suspect. Three other people arrested in connection with a series of bombings in France remain in custody, the spokeswoman said.

One of the suspects being held is Aboi Fares, who French police believe masterminded the bomb attacks.

A French daily said officials in Algiers knew Mr. Fares as Rachid R., aged 26.

Paris blames militant Algerian Muslims for the bombings in France that have killed seven people and wounded 170 since July.

France said Wednesday it had seriously damaged the ability of suspected Algerian Mus-

lim extremists to conduct terrorist bombings on its soil but that the danger was not over.

"It is clear today that we have struck a substantial blow at the structure of the network responsible for the series of attacks that we have experienced," Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debré told Parliament.

"But vigilance remains more necessary than ever," he said.

"The government continues — and will continue — to fight terrorism with all its strength, and with the help and support of European police forces."

Paris has asked Britain to detain Mr. Fares until an extradition request can be made.

France believes that he is tied to Algeria's Armed Islamic Group, which has claimed responsibility for the bombings.

The group accuses France of siding with Algeria's military government in the civil war with Muslim fundamentalists.

A warrant for Mr. Fares links him to a bomb blast outside a Paris underground railroad station on Oct. 6 in which 13 people were wounded.

Investigators also pressed their search for other suspects in France, rounding up several individuals for questioning in raids near Lyon.

The target of the latest raids was a suspected Islamic network that the police said was operating in the town of Chasse-sur-Rhône, outside Lyon.

France last week arrested a key suspect, Boualem Bensaid, 27, in Paris along with five alleged accomplices.

He has been placed under investigation for attempted murder, destruction of property with explosives, illegal use of explosives and criminal terrorist conspiracy after officials said they overheard him on a wiretapped phone ordering the car-bombing of a marketplace in the northern French city of Lille.

Germany Sentences Neo-Nazis

DORTMUND, Germany — A leading neo-Nazi, Meinolf Schönborn, was sentenced to 27 months in prison on Wednesday for continuing to lead the National Front party even after it was banned in 1992.

The presiding judge of the Dortmund court, Manfred Reichel, said: "Deep inside, Schönborn never accepted the ban on the party."

The judge also expressed amazement that the police had ignored Mr. Schönborn's flourishing trade from his home in bumper stickers, button badges, T-shirts and books, which were manufactured by his own publishing house.

The court handed down a tougher sentence than the two years prosecutors had requested. It also sentenced two former National Front board members to 10 months in prison.

Mr. Schönborn's lawyers portrayed him as a law-abiding businessman and produced witnesses confirming the defendant's assertions that he did not plan to build up the party organization again.

The government banned the party and the police raided its offices in 40 cities three years ago in the first decisive step against mounting racist violence that followed unification in 1990. At the time, Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters called the ban an "unmistakable warning signal" to the extreme right.

The party adopted policies enunciated by Hitler's National Socialists. It also said it had created a "nationalist action commando" to fight foreigners, political opponents and the state, and organized military exercises for its members.

In its raids, the police unearthed weapons, ammunition and materials to make bombs.



DARN TOOTIN' — Mayor Bram Peper of Rotterdam blowing a whistle Wednesday during a police protest over pay.

Pro-Reform Parties Advance in Georgia

TBILISI, Georgia — Only three of Georgia's 54 parties and blocs, all center-right and sympathetic to reform, cleared the 5 percent barrier needed to win parliamentary seats by proportional representation in last Sunday's vote, election officials said Wednesday.

The three parties are Eduard A. Shevardnadze's Georgian Citizen's Union, the National Democratic Party led by Iria Sarisvili and the All-Georgian Union of Rebirth led by Aslan Abashidze.

The Communists won 4.6 percent of the vote, according to preliminary results from all of Georgia's 75 voting districts. The final tally is to be announced Friday, but significant changes are not expected.

In that event, Mr. Shevardnadze's Georgian Citizen's Union will hold the largest number of seats in the Parliament, controlling about 23 percent of the vote.

In a separate election Sunday Mr. Shevardnadze won the presidency with 75 percent of the vote.

The National Democratic Party and the All-Georgian Union of Rebirth each received from 7 percent to 8 percent of the vote. Both are center-right groups very likely to play the part of a loyal opposition, generally favorable to reform.

Of the 235 seats in the Parliament, 150 are to be decided according to proportional voting from party lists and 75 from regional first-past-the-post polling. Ten more have been set aside for Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which boycotted the polls.

Of 75 district-wide contests, only 33 resulted in a final decision. The remaining seats must be decided in runoff elections on Nov. 19. (AFP)

U.K. Pressed on Ulster

BELFAST — Britain was under mounting Irish pressure on Wednesday to find a way out of a year-old impasse blocking Northern Ireland's path to permanent peace.

Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland is calling for a British-Irish summit meeting to try to end the deadlock before a visit by President Bill Clinton later this month, news reports from Dublin said. Irish government officials refused to comment on the reports.

In Belfast, key nationalist leaders, with support from Sinn Féin, the IRA's political wing, intensified demands for London to move to all-party peace talks and drop its insistence that IRA guerrillas must first surrender weapons. (Reuters)

Eurocorps Gears Up

STRASBOURG — The Eurocorps, described by its supporters as the nucleus of a future European army, will become operational next month, its German commander, Helmut Willmann, said Wednesday.

He said that he would formally declare the corps operational on Nov. 30, at the end of an exercise by some units of the 50,000-member force, which includes soldiers from France, Germany, Spain, Belgium and Luxembourg.

About 10,000 soldiers from the five countries will take part in the military exercise that is to start on Nov. 18 in the Ardennes region of Belgium and France. (Reuters)

A Swede Begs Off

STOCKHOLM — The Swedish co-ordination minister, Jan Nygren said Wednesday that he would not seek to become the leader of the governing Social Democrats, and thereby prime minister, because of an agreement with his son.

Mr. Nygren, 45, said in an interview with the newspaper Blekinge Läns that he had promised his 14-year-old son that he would not be a candidate for the post when the party leader and prime minister, Ingvar Carlsson, steps down at a party congress in March. "My marriage broke up because of my work," Mr. Nygren said. "I don't intend to risk my relationship with my son." (AFP)

Gibraltar Gets Help

LONDON — The British government announced plans Wednesday to strengthen the economy of Gibraltar.

The Foreign Office minister, David Davis, speaking in Gibraltar, said that Britain would assist in the enforcement of financial-service rules and provide advice on developing tourism and other industries.

London also is ready to pay the healthcare costs of pensioners who retire to Gibraltar from Britain, he said. (Reuters)

Translation Aid Set

BRUSSELS — The European Union approved plans Wednesday to help overcome language barriers that hinder business in the 15-member bloc.

The European Commission earmarked

15 million ECU, (\$19.5 million) for the development of a range of high-technology translation services. Projects include electronic dictionaries, computerized grammar- and style-checkers and networks that will enable business people to consult translators during meetings. (AP)

EU Tackles Fraud

BRUSSELS — The European Commission promised new steps Wednesday to toughen scrutiny of spending and combat fraud.

The Commission said it would adopt or renew spending programs only after evaluating the most efficient way to pay for them. It also pledged to increase the frequency of internal audits and ensure that new spending programs are "fraud-proof" as possible. (AP)

European Union events set for Thursday

BRUSSELS: The EU council of ministers meets on consumer problems.

BRUSSELS: Karel van Miert, commissioner for competition policy, meets with the German economics minister, Ginter Rexrodt.

ERFURT, Germany: The commission president, Jacques Santer, visits former East German regions and attends meetings of regional leaders before the Europa Forum in Berlin on Friday.

ATHENS: Neil Kinnock, commissioner for transportation, begins an official two-day visit, including meetings with the Greek merchant marine minister, Georgios Katsifara, and the transportation minister, Evangelos Venizelos.

COPENHAGEN: Franz Fischer, commissioner for agriculture, meets with the Danish agriculture minister, Henrik Dam Christensen.

BRUSSELS: Sir Leon Brittan, commissioner for external trade, addresses the International Federation of Phonographic Industries.

BRUSSELS: Edith Cresson, commissioner for research, addresses a conference on the Socrates project.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

González Dares Foes To Call Vote Of Censure

MADRID — Prime Minister Felipe González, undaunted by the creation of a Senate committee to probe Spain's "dirty war" against ETA in the 1980s, dared his divided opponents Wednesday to call a vote of no-confidence.

"You want to change the government? Submit a vote of censure," the embattled Socialist prime minister told Parliament.

Earlier Wednesday, the Senate formally set up an investigating committee that could be even more politically damaging for Mr. González than current court inquiries into the murders of 27 suspected Basque separatists from 1983 to 1987.

The prime minister, who denies any knowledge of this campaign by security forces and hired gunmen, was asked in Parliament whether the defeat last month of his 1996 budget was tantamount to a vote of no-confidence, as Economy Minister Pedro Solbes has admitted.

"Under the constitution, no," he replied.

Increasingly cornered by the dirty war scandal, Mr. González has already promised to hold an election in March, a year ahead of schedule.

He refuses to bring it forward any further, knowing that, while the opposition managed to throw out his budget, it would not be able to agree on an alternative leader as required before a vote of no-confidence can be held.

The Spanish Constitution says a government cannot be voted out in Parliament before a "constructive" alternative is ready, with a new prime minister and an agreed program of government. That is something the broad spectrum of parties now arrayed against Mr. González could not muster.

The investigating committee will begin formal proceedings next Thursday. A series of court cases has already opened, and the Supreme Court is now trying to assess whether there is enough evidence to prosecute Mr. González for the dirty war. It has asked Parliament to lift the immunity of former Interior Minister José Barrionuevo so that he can be questioned as a suspect in a particular kidnapping.

The cases focus in part on secret papers, already disclosed and published in the local press, which the opposition says prove the government engineered the illegal campaign.

The papers are part of a stash of more than 1,000 secret military files stolen four years ago. Mr. González told Parliament on Wednesday that the files still had not been recovered.

Penal Code Approved
 The Parliament on Wednesday approved the first overhaul of Spain's criminal law in more than a century as it voted in a new penal code that cracks down on corruption and introduces laws prohibiting racism and sexual harassment. The Associated Press reported.

Communists Recapture Russian Limelight

By Michael Specter
New York Times Service
MOSCOW — As a man trained in philosophy, Gennadi A. Zyuganov loves to toss around the big words of the 20th century.

He is forever talking about the Social Democrats of Britain and the egalitarianism of Sweden. And about how liberalism changes when it travels from Germany to Italy to Spain.

But there is one word you almost never hear him say: communism. For some people, particularly in Russia these days, that would be understandable. For the active, voluble and extremely popular chairman of what is still called the Communist Party, it seems a little bit strange.

But it is hard to argue with success, and in five years Mr. Zyuganov, 51, has succeeded in taking a moribund political movement and turning it into the most popular party in Russia.

As the Dec. 17 parliamentary elections draw near, there on longer seems any doubt that Communists will have a dominant role in a heavily divided legislature. The question is whether they will have the power to slow the policies of President Boris N. Yeltsin.

"You know that they cannot rule in the traditional sense," said Mascha Volkenshtein, a sociologist and pollster.

"The president rules Russia. But the Communists are the party that appeals to people who don't like the way things have turned out. And that's a lot of people."

As Mr. Zyuganov himself has said, sometimes the best thing one can say

about the Communist Party is that it has a terrific name recognition.

Although Nov. 7 is still celebrated throughout the country as Revolution Day, the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, most Russians, even Communists, now regard the old Soviet system as a disaster. But many are appalled at the psychological and social turmoil caused by the free market.

Like many people elsewhere in the former Soviet empire, particularly in

'For better or worse, these people are new kinds of Communists, and they have a lot of support.'

East European countries, where voters have reacted to the pain of economic change by returning Communists to power, Russians are trying to find a different path.

And the Communists are trying to make that path their own. Mr. Yeltsin has already been pushed away from liberal policies by nationalists and Communists in the last three years. A Communist victory next month would only increase the pressure to turn back the clock.

"We gathered two million signatures to 10 days," Mr. Zyuganov said, referring to the petitions from voters required of each party that seeks to run. "No party got half as many. Others paid

for their support. We didn't spend a kopeck." Mr. Zyuganov says he believes in a multiparty system, private property, freedom of religion and lots of choice.

"Labels cause too many problems," he said in an interview.

"Two basic ideas compete in the world today," he said. "Light and dark. Look at all the world's religions. The message is love your neighbor. We have the same goals. Communists never invented anything. Nobody said they did. They simply try to implement a vision of truth and justice that you can find in any fairy tale."

Fairy tales have their problems, though. As Russia completes its two-day holiday honoring the Bolshevik Revolution, with Mr. Zyuganov laying the obligatory wreath on Lenin's Tomb, people are beginning to wonder whether, after five years of faltering reforms, communism could really return to the land it nearly destroyed? And what would happen if it did?

Mr. Zyuganov tries to portray a future Communist Russia that caters to the needs of the many without offending the dreams of the few.

He knows that the old party line is no longer acceptable. So he has moved to the center, calling for orderly, restrained renationalization of some, not all, industries. He says the land ought to belong to the people.

Knowing that the crime epidemic worries almost everyone, he has promised law and order, and points out that his people are not the same ones who for seven decades deprived people of their civil liberties.

He says the Constitution, which

makes the Parliament he may control virtually toothless, should be honored.

But he also says it is time for a new type of reform, by which he means that it is time to end the ability of a few well-placed people to loot the considerable resources of one of the world's largest nations. And he almost never makes a speech without reminding people how much he would do to welcome foreign investment.

The pitch, larded with the call for a strong Russia, certainly seems to have hit a spot with the voters. In almost every poll taken in the last three months, Communists receive more support, spread evenly across the country, than any other group.

Much of that support comes from pensioners frustrated that the old world of cheap sausage and guaranteed employment is gone. Some of it comes from people angry at the grabby, lawless state that the brazenly capitalist Russia has become. And the rest seems to come from people who just do not know what else to do.

"For better or worse, these people are new kinds of Communists, and they have a lot of support," said Igor Klyamkin, one of Russia's leading pollsters and the head of the Foundation for Public Opinion. "Zyuganov is flexible, modern and pragmatic. He understands his electorate and he understands Russia. He is a realist, and realistic Communists are new to this country. What he would be like as a leader, however, nobody can say."

Mr. Zyuganov is in fact so pragmatic that his success says as much about the failure of communism as anything can in Russia.

CORRECTION

Due to a typing error in the Nov. 7 sponsored section on Lebanon, an incorrect figure was given concerning the number of passengers carried by Middle East Airlines last year. The correct figure is 780,000.

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Indelible War Crimes

Of the prospective provisions of a peace accord, none is more urgent than a constitutional mandate for the prosecution of war crimes. On all sides of the nearly four-year conflict, the rules of war, designed to ensure a minimal decency, have been crassly broken. A war crimes tribunal set up by the United Nations in The Hague has now indicted 40 Bosnian Serbs and one Bosnian Croat. For maximum effect, however, the call for justice needs to be embedded in the structure of a Bosnian state. It needs to be treated not simply as a foreign imposition but as an obligation that the reluctant partners in a new Bosnia have taken upon themselves.

Such a provision can have scant appeal for the Bosnian Serbs. Their top leaders, including Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, could not make it to the Dayton peace talks for fear of being arrested on the war crimes charges that have been brought against them at the international tribunal. The draft Bosnian constitution written up by American officials would compel "all competent authorities" in any part of the country to work with the tribunal and with international human rights groups as well.

This is a harsh demand, and one that no

doubt complicates some of the diplomacy. Serbia's president, who is representing the Bosnian Serbs at Dayton, would prefer to have a little leeway to allow him to remove the two top Bosnian Serbs in his own political fashion. But why would Serbia, itself a country eager to escape international economic sanctions and to find a quick path back to Western favor, want to delay the departure of the Karadzic-Mladic pair? Why would other Bosnian Serbs want to keep this totally discredited duo as their leaders one day longer than they had?

The United States has been a strong force in creating the war crimes tribunal. So it is perplexing to read that the chief prosecutor has complained of American delays in banding over intelligence that might be used against criminal suspects. The intelligence agencies are always careful to protect their prerogatives, but there can be no denying the overwhelming force of the demand for the prompt and full furnishing of all relevant information on war crimes. It is the key to enlisting the serious cooperation of others in the prosecution. It is a political necessity and a moral necessity, too.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Helms Goes Too Far

Because of the obstinacy of Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, the United States does not have an ambassador in Beijing at a time when relations with China have reached their most delicate and dangerous point in more than 20 years. President Bill Clinton's choice for this crucial post is former Senator Jim Sasser of Tennessee, a moderate Democrat who could normally count on easy confirmation from his former colleagues. Mr. Sasser could be using his considerable political skills and closeness to Mr. Clinton to improve communications between the two capitals and provide the kind of consistent attention that the president himself or the secretary of state is unable to give. He ought to be confirmed without further delay.

Mr. Sasser's nomination has been held up first by Chinese diplomatic gamesmanship and then by that of Mr. Helms. While the United States tries to restrain Chinese bellicosity over Taiwan and the South China Sea, constrain its missile sales to Pakistan, enforce trade agreements and ease Beijing's repression of human rights, Mr. Sasser is left cooling his heels in Washington.

Americans are also being deprived of the services of ambassadors in South Africa, Pakistan, Lebanon, Indonesia and 12 other countries. Further, Mr. Helms is delaying ratification of a treaty that would reduce the number of Russian nuclear warheads by two-thirds and a convention banning chemical weapons. Mr. Helms, a Republican who heads the Foreign Relations Committee, has short-sightedly given his drive to destroy three independent foreign policy agencies precedence over these urgent issues. He is wrong about the agencies, too.

Earlier this year he proposed legislation that would put the functions of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the Agency for International Development

and the U.S. Information Agency under direct State Department control, breaking up their expert staffs and eliminating most of the money they need to do their jobs.

Keeping the information agency independent insulates its work, including the Voice of America, from diplomatic pressures. Keeping the arms control agency independent means that there is someone to speak up against proliferation in North Korea, weapons sales by China and French nuclear testing when silence might seem diplomatically convenient. Keeping the foreign aid agency independent assures that humanitarian assistance and support for democratic institutions will not lose out to pork-barrel gifts for friendly governments that may also be corrupt or dictatorial.

Nevertheless, Mr. Helms gathered enough votes for his assault on these agencies to assure Senate passage. But in August, Senate Democrats blocked the bill with a threatened filibuster. After they turned back two cloture votes, the bill was withdrawn from floor consideration.

Mr. Helms retaliated with breathtaking disproportion, shutting down the entire work of the Foreign Relations Committee until his bill comes to a vote. Senator John Kerry has proposed compromises on the administration's behalf, but negotiations have got nowhere. Mr. Helms continues to insist on cutting operating funds so savagely that nothing meaningful would be left.

It would be nice if the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee put the national interest ahead of bureaucratic vendettas. Apparently he will not. Perhaps the Democrats should let his reorganization measure come to the floor. If it passes, the president could veto it. The ambassadors and the treaties Mr. Helms holds hostage should not have to wait any longer for their release.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Stingy and Devious

Two arguments are getting badly mangled in the American welfare debate. In justifying their drastic cuts, many Republicans in Congress argue that there is something wrong in the country having to do with the failure of personal generosity and private giving to the poor. That is one thing. But they then take a huge leap and say that if government gets out of the way by cutting back on assistance to the poor, there will be an outpouring of private help and voluntarism.

There is a strong case to be made that there has been a drop in giving and volunteering, and that is true even though Americans have built an enviable network of voluntary charitable agencies. A 1994 survey by Independent Sector, a Washington organization that studies nonprofit charities, found "a downward trend" in both giving and volunteering. There is no denying the need to re-establish a stronger public ethic of generosity, especially among the better off. Endless examples of rightly embarrassed prominent people whose pitifully small contributions have, one way and another, come to public attention illustrate the point.

If the Republicans were simply insisting that government programs are insufficient to the job and no substitute for private giving, they would be right. But they have gone on to contend that if government got out of the way, private efforts to help the poor would proliferate. There is no evidence for this.

As Dana Milbank reported recently in The Wall Street Journal, the private and church-based organizations doing the most to help the poor are alarmed by the cutbacks in aid to the poor being contemplated in Congress. Far from strengthening private efforts, a group of 44 religious groups wrote to the Senate leadership this summer, the cutbacks could "completely overwhelm our resources for serving the needy." Many of these groups receive some financing from government, and an Independent Sector study found that just to keep up current efforts the private organizations would need to see contributions increase by 124 percent between now and 2002. Does anyone believe Americans are all on the verge of becoming that generous?

And no private or church-based agency is in a position to make up for cuts in basic forms of help for the poor in medical care, food stamps and welfare.

The country does need to re-examine the whole structure of private and governmental charity. There is a need to strengthen the less bureaucratic approaches that volunteers can bring to the effort to help the poor. But dismantling the government's systems of support is the wrong place to start. We suspect that the spirit behind the cutbacks in government help is, unfortunately, the same stingy spirit that is driving down private giving. That spirit needs to change.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Time for Israelis and Friends to Choose Their Camp

By Thomas L. Friedman

WASHINGTON — After the murder of Yitzhak Rabin there is an understandable desire to dismiss his assassin as a lone gunman from outside the pale of Israeli political life and call for a period of national unity. Those impulses are wrong, all wrong, and the man who could have told you that best was Yitzhak Rabin.

This is not a time for unity. This is a time for taking sides. That is what Yitzhak Rabin was doing when he was shot.

He was not muffled his voice or blurring his aims. He was taking a principled stand in favor of a historic compromise with the Palestinians — to share the land of Israel-Palestine between the two peoples who called it home.

We do not honor Mr. Rabin by avoiding that choice. We honor him by making that choice. We honor him by helping in every democratic way possible to enlarge the Israeli majority in favor of peace with the Arabs, because, as Mr. Rabin knew, that is the only hope for preserving a secure, democratic Jewish state.

The Likud party leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, has been doing his best to paint Yigal Amir, Mr. Rabin's assassin, as a lone

gunman — the Lee Harvey Oswald of Israel. No, no, no. Yigal Amir was no Lee Harvey Oswald. Lee Harvey Oswald was a lone gunman whose politics had nothing to do with the Democratic or Republican parties. Yigal Amir was a lone gunman whose politics are virtually identical with those of Mr. Netanyahu's Likud party and its allies in the Orthodox Jewish right. Likud never would have accepted Mr. Amir's means, but it cannot deny that it shares his ends — bringing the Israeli-Palestinian peace process to a halt so that Israel will never have to leave the West Bank.

Mr. Netanyahu wants us to believe that Mr. Amir is deranged. Sorry, Mr. Amir is not deranged. He is just your average religious right-wing hard-liner, who listened to Likud's verbal attacks on Mr. Rabin, who saw the posters depicting Mr. Rabin as a Nazi SS officer, and just took it all to his logical extreme.

Naturally, Mr. Netanyahu wants to disguise his connection to Mr. Amir. Oh, he says, with mock sincerity, Likud will sup-

port the Labor government in its vote of confidence because Israeli governments should only be changed "by ballots, not bullets" — and to do otherwise would be to give in to the will of this crazy assassin.

Mr. Netanyahu wants us to believe that what the assassin represented was the idea of undemocratic change. Nonsense. Yigal Amir represented the idea of stopping the peace process with the Palestinians — an idea that he and Mr. Netanyahu share. That is what Mr. Netanyahu wants to hide, but Mr. Amir sticks to him like Velcro.

The reason why Mr. Rabin had nothing but contempt for most members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, why he lambasted them on his last visit here, was that he was in a war for peace, and these so-called American Jewish leaders had left him alone on the battlefield because they did not have the courage to take a stand.

Israelis and American Jews are divided on the question of peace, but not 50-50. If Israel were truly that divided, the peace process that Mr. Rabin embarked upon two years ago would never have gone this far. The silent majorities in both com-

munities want this process to succeed, but they have been too passive, too willing to let Mr. Rabin carry the burden alone.

Let's not have any illusions. There is only one way to honor Yitzhak Rabin, and that is to fulfill his vision. To do that now requires others to stand up for that vision with the same courage with which he stood up for it, and to fight for it with the same vigor with which he fought for it.

That was the meaning of King Hussein's remarkable eulogy, in which he said that when he died he hoped it would be the same way his grandfather and Mr. Rabin died, taking a bullet on the battlefield of peace, because that is the only death worthy of such a life.

And so the king implored the mourners: "Let us not keep silent. Let our voices rise high to speak of our commitment to peace for all comes to come. And let us tell those who live in darkness, who are the enemies of life and true faith, this is where we stand. This is our camp."

He is so right. For everything there is a season, and this is the season of choices. Yitzhak Rabin made his. How about you?

The New York Times.

Toward More Efficient State Capitalism, if Beijing Has Its Way

By Philip Bowring

BEIJING — A new era is creeping in. China's decision to reduce tax breaks for foreign-invested enterprises and special economic zones is more than just a technical adjustment.

Together with the revival of the State Planning Commission and administrative attempts to control credit, prices and labor movement, it signifies new directions for China's economy as it moves into a post-Deng phase. It also carries a political message.

Depending on one's viewpoint, the tax move can be seen as reflecting the success of the Deng reforms or as signaling problems ahead. It can be simultaneously interpreted as the logical next step in China's development, or as backtracking from progress toward a market economy in which the state plays a diminishing role.

There is no doubt that tax-free capital goods imports, and low to negligible profits taxes in the special economic zones, have been almost as important as low wages in attracting foreign investment

into labor-intensive export industries. These produce most of China's \$150 billion in exports, and have given it a large trade surplus for four out of the past five years.

But the tax breaks are a serious distortion. They became one of many impediments to joining the World Trade Organization, they increased income disparity between coastal and inland provinces, and they deprived the central government of revenue.

Given China's trade surplus and strong capital inflow, the full impact of changes will emerge only gradually. However, at the end of the day they signal less emphasis on foreign trade and light industry.

Whether this does much for the inland areas remains to be seen, but it will definitely be to the relative advantage of the central and northern coastal provinces, compared with the pacemaker of the past decade, Guangdong (and hence Hong Kong).

The emphasis now is on luring foreign investment into heavier industries, with more emphasis on transfer of technology than on exports. The bait: greater access to the domestic market.

This goal fits with a shift back toward emphasis on state enterprises and medium and heavy industries. Closure of loss-makers has been abandoned in favor of trying to make them more competitive, particularly through ventures with foreign investors. It is a recognition of political and economic realities.

State enterprises remain at the core of the party/state power structure, which will be more important than ever in an era without a commanding figure. There are also limits to economic growth for small-scale and light industry without improvement in the basic industries and infrastructure.

Light industries and services will continue to absorb millions moving off the land. That move-

ment out of very low-productivity agriculture should ensure continuing GDP growth of 7 to 8 percent a year. (This is less than the current official double digit growth but about the level now if, as foreign economists suggest, official data are discounted by 2 percentage points.)

However, without more efficient use of capital by heavier sectors, even a 7 percent growth may be difficult to attain. If household savings are used to bail out the inefficient, transport and power development will lag, and the trade balance will deteriorate.

Momentum for growth will remain decentralized, but the center's need for revenue and influence has been behind the various tax reforms of the past 18 months. Provincial power is still strong but is being gradually eroded by taxation and by increased use of the State Planning Commission to influence the pace and direction of capital investment — particularly away from buildings into infrastructure and industry.

Government revenues are needed to redistribute income, spur agriculture and, eventually, provide welfare safety nets without which reform of state enterprises will be politically unacceptable.

Total farm production is expanding but that of grain is almost static — a major worry for a country in which grain self-sufficiency remains an article of faith. But here the price decontrol that might shift terms of trade in favor of grain production runs up against the political imperative of maintaining the pro-urban price bias.

To the demands of the long-pampered state enterprise workers are now being added the basic needs of the floating population (estimated at 80 million or more) who have left the land.

Central revenues are needed to fund ways other than that of encouraging grain production while holding down prices. Whether it also means the end of price reform remains to be seen. Current controls and subsidies to limit price rises are a short-term expedient. Whether they become semi-permanent will partly depend on the success of credit control.

The authorities are following the excellent blueprint for financial sector reform laid down by the Third Plenum two years ago, and should thus eventually get a normal banking system and a central bank able to use price mechanisms to control monetary growth. But it is a slow process and runs counter to provincial as well as entrenched state sector interests.

Meanwhile, the political imperative is to bring down inflation by whatever means. Although inflation has fallen, to keep it from bouncing back while state enterprises need big cash infusions will need constant effort.

At the technical management level, China continues to make rapid progress as a result of eagerness to learn from abroad. Project implementation capability is far ahead of most developing countries. Willingness to experiment with sophisticated instruments (perhaps too sophisticated) like bond and commodity futures has not been entirely killed off by some chaotic results.

But a more dirigiste outlook now prevails at the top, as the government struggles to balance growth — its base of legitimacy — with stability and the reassertion of central authority. It may even reduce corruption.

In other words, the goals are more efficient state capitalism, a sound financial system, and a tax system capable of delivering enough national revenue to deal with national issues.

This is all dull stuff compared with Deng Xiaoping's battle cry "To get rich is glorious." It also suggests even less tolerance of dissent. But from the point of view of a quasi collective leadership of competent but uninspiring engineers, managers and opportunists, it makes sense.

International Herald Tribune.

East Asia Is Beginning to Cost Investors Too Much

By Mark Simon

HONG KONG — The International Monetary Fund recently forecast that East Asia is set to continue its economic boom for the next few years. Yet Sony announced that it will no longer export television sets from Japan because it cannot price them competitively. Listen to Sony.

Even in a growing market such as Asia, costs count. And for many businesses, Asia is beginning to cost too much.

East Asia's economic miracle is best summed up as the biggest price undercut in history. The region grew because it was the cheapest source for the low-technology consumer goods that the West craved. Hong Kong and South Korea did not invent new or more efficient manufacturing techniques; they simply bought market share with low wages.

But the same market force that led buyers from America and Europe to Taiwan and Japan 30 years ago is now working against

Asian nations as they try to upgrade their industries. Multinational companies like Sony, Hewlett-Packard and Ford need a competitive business environment that is based on more than cheap pairs of hands.

In much of East Asia, inadequate roads, seaports and airports, telecommunications and other infrastructure, high rents, shortage of managers and skilled technicians, corruption and, above all, government interference are now the deciding factors when multinational corporations choose to keep production in North America or Europe.

In shipping, terminal expenses in Japan and Hong Kong are two or three times those in the busiest ports on the U.S. West Coast. To truck a container 160 kilometers from southern China to Hong Kong costs more than to ship the same container from the United

States or Europe to Hong Kong.

Compare office rents in Shanghai or Jakarta with Chicago and Paris; and residential rents in Singapore with those in and around Washington. Or try to hold a qualified manager in China against the almost weekly job offers he gets due to the shortage of Chinese professionals.

Companies are voting with their feet in response to high costs. Matsushita and Honda continue to move production out of Japan. Taiwan's Nan Ya Plastic is establishing factories in North Carolina and Texas to export back to Asia. Footwear and textiles have largely been driven from South Korea to China and Indonesia as Korean wages outpace productivity.

Losing footwear may be nothing to cry over if that industry can be replaced, but what will substitute for low-tech electronics in South Korea and airline customer

service activities in Hong Kong?

The competition is not going to let up. To attract investment from East Asia and elsewhere, local authorities in Britain and state governments in the United States offer to cut taxes, provide cheap land and slash bureaucracy. Technological innovations and cost reductions in telecommunications and transport mean that location (take note, Hong Kong) is no longer as important as it was.

The Philippines is not just in competition with India and Thailand for today's semiconductor plant, but with Texas and Spain as well. Good jobs come with a price these days, and the currency required is a competitive and open business environment.

In East Asia, only Singapore seems to understand that keeping up is not good enough; being competitive means being ahead. It is now vying with Hong Kong in financial services. Singapore's government recognizes that the natural economic advantages of the island state can be fully exploited only if the market is deregulated and the cost of bureaucracy is cut.

In most parts of Asia that message has not fully registered. Tariffs on agricultural imports cripple South Korea and Japanese food processing industries. Restrictive trucking practices in Taiwan and Indonesia keep exporters' transport costs high.

Ton many Asian governments don't seem to understand that as costs rise, competitiveness falls and investors shy away.

The writer, a manager for an international shipping firm based in Hong Kong, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

United Germany Missed a Chance

By Margarita Mathiopoulos

HANNOVER, Germany — The European revolution that saw the collapse of the Communist regimes and German unification was a triumph for freedom, democracy and free market economics. But six years later it is not clear that Germany has captured the golden moment that history offered.

The Bonn republic ended on Oct. 3, 1990. The day of unity and the Bundestag's decision to move the capital from Bonn to Berlin will go down in history as events that affected not just domestic politics but the ability of the German economy to compete worldwide and Germany's foreign policy orientation.

The outside world observes that Germany remains loyal to its American and European partners, that it tries to take more international responsibility and that the economy overall is not too bad, with growth rates around 11 percent in the former East Germany. But will this attitude endure in the Berlin republic?

The political values of the old Bonn republic — democratic tolerance, European orientation, Western thinking — could vanish when Germans realize their power and claim their position as Europe's "central power."

The last five years have seen the rise of racist and radical right-wing terror, the beginning of doubts about Western orientation, new nationalist thinking, a search for the "normality of a healthy patriotism" and an increased desire to close the book

on the past. Germany has begun to reassert itself in foreign affairs, pressing, for example, for recognition of Croatia and Slovenia.

Was the Bonn republic only a fair-weather democracy? Will Germany remain a committed member of the Western community of values, or did that orientation apply only to the post-war period of partition?

The Federal Republic's democratic and constitutional state has provided hope that Germany has enough democrats to effectively oppose dangerous temptations in domestic and foreign policy. The real danger today, however, is economic — especially because of Germany's need for "fair weather" in order to enjoy democracy.

The enormous and tedious process of internal unification was a useful excuse in postponing necessary economic reform. The unification boom was perceived as a great economic success and prevented deeper structural reforms.

The truth is that Germany has lost ground in the last six years. It has missed the opportunity to use unification to shape up and modernize the economy.

Blanket adoption of West German regulatory systems was among the fundamental mistakes. Ponderous systems of economy, bureaucracy, science and culture that were lamented in the old Länder were imposed on the East. Germany could have tested new, flexible economic models in the new Länder, which

would have enriched the entire Federal Republic.

Eastern Germany could have become a laboratory for a brand of "capitalism with a human face" that could have tested comprehensive privatization in the utilities, telecommunications, road construction, railroad and university sectors.

German unification could have been a major opportunity for the renewal and modernization of the entire German society. Having missed it, Germany now must focus on correcting errors, on fostering modernization and on damage control.

The need for action is particularly acute in the wage-cost sector, which makes Germany one of the most expensive production sites.

If Germany is to remain a business site, companies must be freed from the formal requirement of fixed wages and allowed to set more flexible work hours. This could put 2 million to 4 million people to work — better than keeping them in expensive, counterproductive unemployment.

Germany has the power to experience a second economic miracle. The question is whether it has the political will.

The writer is senior bank executive in Hannover, a lecturer in American politics and international relations at the University of Braunschweig and author of "The End of the Bonn Republic." She contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Horses Abused

PARIS — Cruelty to animals is repugnant to any civilized person, and every year American and English visitors to Paris view with horror the conditions of horses in Paris. The bad condition of the cab-horses and the cruelty of the majority of the cochers never fail to excite compassion and indignation on the part of those who have occasion to use them. "Anglo-Saxons are always interested in the subject of cruelty to animals, and especially horses. Undoubtedly in Paris there is much to be desired in regard to ameliorating their condition," said the president of the Société Protectrice des Animaux, M. Uhrich.

1920: Harding's Policy

WASHINGTON — President-elect Harding, in addressing an assembly of two thousand people in Marshall, Tex., reiterated his stand against an alliance between the

United States and Europe. "America does not need any meeting of Foreign Powers to tell us our moral obligations," the new President said. "We want to meet them, to take counsel with them, to know their thoughts and to give them ours, but we also want, at the same time, to enjoy the proverbial freedom of America."

1945: Paraguay Revolts

BUENOS AIRES — The post-war movement to overthrow dictatorships in Latin America has spread to Paraguay. The regime of General Higinio Morinigo has adopted new measures of repression as a precaution against military and civilian groups, which are attempting to repeat in Paraguay the successful revolutions which overthrew dictatorships in Venezuela and Brazil. The Morinigo dictatorship arrested a group of young Army officers, politicians and student leaders last week and sent them to concentration camps.



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OPINION/LETTERS

A Lot of Things Have Actually Improved in America Since the 'Good Old Days'

LOS ANGELES — Here is a thought worth thinking: "It is hard to think of many ideas stranger than the notion that the United States has gone downhill since the 1960s."

That line was written by Gregg Easterbrook, an author and contributing editor of *The Atlantic*.

MEANWHILE

Crime and the breakup of the family are obvious negatives, but, he continued: "By most measures, the United States of 1995 is a dramatically better place to live than the United States of 1959."

Cocking a cold eye at the good old days seems to me an important antidote to the nostalgia, nonsense,

fading memory and outright lies that cloud men's minds about the past, which for many of them just happens to coincide with their own youth.

"Men" is a good place to begin talking about life in the land of the free and the home of the brave before a little liberalism and a lot of innovation recognized "women" as persons apart from a thing called "togetherness."

"Togetherness," if you are too young to remember, was a magazine promotion, for McCall's. The "togetherness" concept escaped from its box and became a cheerful rationale for keeping women in their place — which was at home,

pretending themselves up for the moment when they could be together with the male provider of bread and wisdom.

Using some of Mr. Easterbrook's ideas, published last week in the *Los Angeles Times*, and some of my own, here is a Top 10 list of why we Americans are lucky to be around these days:

1. People are living longer and healthier lives than anyone could have imagined back in the 1950s, a tribute to four astounding decades of medical and pharmaceutical advances and labor-saving devices. Diseases like polio have been eliminated for all practical purposes, and pain, continuous pain, has become

the exception rather than the rule in most forms of illness. And no longer do millions of old people have to face an end without medical care.

2. The minorities of America have been legally brought into the mainstream of life; discrimination has become a crime rather than a habit. It is one of the great achievements of a nation that desperately wants to believe it is the last, best hope of mankind.

3. For the first time, large numbers of middle-class and even poor children can go on to college making us a great deal better educated than we ever were before.

4. Air conditioning has opened whole new areas to habitation and work in the United States and around the world. Refrigeration and

new interstate highways have brought amazingly cheap fruit and vegetables all year round to the colder climates where most of us live.

5. The new highways and mass-produced automobiles have made it possible for middle-class people to live in the country, or something like it, and still work in the city — with real income more than doubling over that time.

6. Television — a faithful and ready friend, teacher and baby sitter — has opened the world to our eyes and minds.

7. The air we breathe and the water we drink has improved greatly with the end of soft-coal heating and new sewage-treatment systems.

8. The threat of nuclear war has declined significantly over these

decades, a tribute to our politicians, our scientists and our soldiers.

9. We have more personal freedom than our ancestors could even have dreamed of.

10. The world has been democratized by jet passenger planes, opening up wonders once reserved for the rich — from the French Riviera to the Taj Mahal to the Pyramids along the Nile — to a new breed of middle-class travelers. Us!

Is there a flip and darker side to some of this "progress"? Of course there is.

But, writes Mr. Easterbrook: "These steady improvements in most aspects of American life happened during the years when government regulations increased and government programs grew.

"Returning to the day before many such programs were enacted would mean a huge step backward in health, safety and prosperity."

He might have added, too, that the current and always fashionable chant that government is the American problem is the music of dopes and fools.

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Cyber-Revolution: Politics as Usual Will Become a Thing of the Past

WASHINGTON — Washington waits breathlessly for Congress and the White House to complete the balanced budget. The electorate waits to see who will run for president. But the future of American politics is actually being decided somewhere else — in semiconductor plants in California, in the cluttered offices of all-night software designers and, of course, all over the Internet.

Technology has always shaped public policy, but in the past it has mainly been an instrument of greater government control. Thanks to computers, for instance, the Internal Revenue Service can peer into your private life and make sure you reported that capital gain on your General Motors stock. But in the future, technology will almost certainly have the opposite effect. For better or worse, liberation is at hand.

Right now, for example, companies based in Antigua and other Caribbean islands are setting up cyber-casinos. You can open an account with an offshore bank, sit at home in Ohio and gamble away thousands of dollars (lose your house even!) playing blackjack or roulette — or betting on sports events — on your computer screen via the World Wide Web.

What can the U.S. government do about it? Not much, even though Net betting, which could become a \$50 billion business, is technically illegal. "Emerging technologies will make gambling on the Internet all but undetectable by law enforcement," writes Evan Schwartz in a fascinating article in the October issue of *Wired*, the cutting-edge computer magazine.

Similarly, Senator James Exon, Democrat of Nebraska, wants to stop child pornography and other forms of smut on the Internet — but the truth is, he can't. Secrecy is too easy, and the United States can't prevent a pedophile from tapping into a Web site in Denmark or Thailand. Nor, it seems, can governments stop software piracy, copyright violations or libel.

Ultimately, financial transactions on the Net will be disguised from outsiders. How, then, will governments be able to collect taxes?

"At some point in the not very distant future," said the

By James K. Glassman

House speaker, Newt Gingrich, in an August interview in *Wired* with the computer guru Esther Dyson, "somebody is going to have encryption you can't break."

"Governments are not going to be able to stop it," he added.

This brave new world is closer than you think. It will drastically change the focus of politics because control will be extremely difficult, if not impossible. We're on the brink of a revolution that will make what the Republicans are doing this year look trivial beyond belief.

But is the ability to access child porn and \$200-a-hand blackjack at a click of the mouse really liberation? The hope is that, with the federal government less obtrusive, we'll be forced to act more responsibly.

For example, if Washington can't collect taxes efficiently, it will have to give up on forced-savings plans such as Social Security, which begin with the assumption that people are too profligate to set aside something for their own retirements. Americans will have to adopt the admirable quality of thrift on their own; they'll have no choice.

Mr. Gingrich understands this coming change and welcomes it. Technology, he believes, will replace the current top-down system with something more humane: "I really like the Tocquevillian model — the sense that you have lean government and big culture." (By culture, he means customs and morals, not Beethoven and Matisse.) "The culture pounds away at the idea of civic responsibility, doing your duty, being an active local leader, being engaged in acts of charity."

Yes, charity. One problem with a government that spends so much on welfare is that it obviates the need for acts of charity — and, more importantly, for social pressure on the rich to perform such acts (after all, the wealthy pay taxes; why feed the poor or donate libraries like Andrew Carnegie?).

Such a vision is frightening to most Americans, so it's hardly a surprise that politicians pander to their fears. A few years ago, Virginia Postrel, the editor of *Reason*, a Los Angeles-based libertarian magazine, wrote that the major con-

flikt in American politics wasn't between liberalism and conservatism but between "dynamism" and "stasis." She's writing a book that expands on this wonderful insight.

The stasis types come in two varieties: reactionaries who want to reverse change, including left-wingers like the Unabomber and Ralph Nader, and right-wingers like Patrick Buchanan; and technocrats who want to manage change, including most of today's progressive politicians, from President Bill Clinton to Senator Bob Dole to Ross Perot.

While Ms. Postrel puts Mr. Gingrich in the technocrat camp, he clearly has more affinity for dynamism than any other national politician. But dynamism abounds among Republican freshmen. Representative Dick Chrysler, Republican of Michigan, who has led the drive to abolish the Commerce Department — a hotbed of technocratic stasis — is a good example.

Dynamism often looks conservative on the surface. I'd say that the last truly dynamist president was Calvin Coolidge, who believed in a minimalist government, which, through clear and strict laws, provided a framework within which individuals and businesses could work their own wills. Mr. Gingrich calls this framework "a skeletal system of federal power" — nice term.

Dynamist leaders "reject the brisk activism of 19-point reformist plans," says Ms. Postrel. They're willing to stand back and let intelligence and creativity flow, whatever the consequences. A good litmus test is immigration. If you're for stasis, you want to close America's golden doors.

It's perfectly reasonable to fear what the future technology will bring. The philosopher Hannah Arendt once wrote, "Has not each of the advances of science, since the time of Copernicus, almost automatically resulted in a decrease in [man's] stature?"

Well, yes: the atomic bomb, the all-seeing computer. But this time may be different. The Internet has the potential to set us free — to learn anything and do anything, whenever we want. No wonder politicians want to regulate it to death.

Washington Post Writers Group.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Foe' Speaks

As the "nuclear foe" pictured in the *International Herald Tribune* (Oct. 30), I would like to reassure readers that I was not alone in protesting French nuclear testing and President Jacques Chirac's visit to Britain.

Such has been the public opposition that Mr. Chirac had to be brought into Chequers via a side entrance under cover of darkness. Similarly, after the Foreign Office press conference the next day, he had to be whisked out by another side entrance.

Visiting heads of state are usually paraded through the streets of London with some pomp and circumstance. Not so this time. Had Mr. Chirac been displayed in public, it would very quickly have become clear that John Major does not speak for Britain in the matter of nuclear testing.

LIONEL TRIPPETT,
London.

Quebec, No

What opportunities are lost by Quebec's voting to remain within the Canadian federation! Little Henri cannot hope to grow up to be an admiral in the Quebec Navy. Visitors from neighboring Ontario won't have to show their passports or have to show their customs. Aircraft pilots won't have to learn French — or *joual*, the Montreal equivalent, which even the French from France can't understand — in order to satisfy

air traffic controllers. The Montreal Canadiens won't have to change their name.

Had the vote gone the other way, one thing is certain: In two years' time, Quebec would have been a dictatorship.

TONY STRACHAN,
Malaga, Spain.

Not Amused

Regarding "In Telephone Fiasco, a Canadian Joker Trumps the Queen" (Oct. 30):

Montreal Radio chat show host Pierre Brassard may have amused many with his conversation with Queen Elizabeth while fooling her into thinking that he was the Canadian prime minister.

However, to publicly ridicule the queen — the sovereign of a foreign country and still formally queen of Canada — in front of a million listeners is to go beyond innocuous comical behavior. As a Montrealese with deep respect for Her Majesty, I can say many here share a deep sense of embarrassment for Mr. Brassard's behavior.

HILLEL NEUER,
Montreal.

Arms Questions

Regarding "Next on the World Court's Docket: Are Nuclear Arms Legal?" (Opinion, Oct. 28):

It is far from certain that the International Court of Justice will issue an unambiguous opinion that the use of nuclear weapons is illegal.

However, if it did, it would

have to make a distinction between first use and retaliatory use. Whereas the former can be considered prohibited by customary international law, the latter cannot because belligerent reprisals are legitimate. They need not be of the same kind as the original illegal act, but they may be.

Consequently, a victim of an aggression committed with a nuclear weapon would have the right to respond in kind. An absolute ban on the use of nuclear weapons, under any circumstance, is impossible without a ban on the very possession of these weapons.

JOSEF GOLDBLAT,
Geneva.

Take Over

Regarding the massacre of thousands of Muslim men trying to leave Serbian-held territory ("12,000 Muslims and a Trek Through Serb Killing Fields," Oct. 27):

I say that rather than let the fighting continue, in which case we would have to bear this drain on our energy and resources indefinitely, we Europeans should stop the belligerents and occupy their territory for a few decades, as was so successfully done with Austria and Germany at the close of World War II.

Taking over now would save many lives and give the next generation both in the former Yugoslavia and the rest of Europe a better chance.

FRANCIS EDMONDS,
Wiesbaden, Germany.

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HEALTH/SCIENCE

Boom Boxes vs. the Whales

By William J. Broad
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — After 18 months of delays and acrimonious debate over whether it would deafen whales and other marine mammals, a \$35 million experiment using underwater sound to investigate the reality of global warming is scheduled to begin this week, though much modified because of protests.

The experiment, run by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California, and involving seven other nations, was originally intended to fire sounds from underwater speakers across the Pacific Ocean at least once a day for a year. Sound travels faster in warm water than cold. In theory, changes in the sound's speed as it crossed the Pacific could reveal temperature shifts as subtle as a few thousandths of a degree.

Such work would try to verify whether computerized global climate models used to predict global warming are accurate or need to be improved.

The temperature experiment is known as Acoustic Thermometry of Ocean Climate, or ATOC (pronounced A-talk). From a depth of about 3,000 feet (about 900 meters), speakers off California and Hawaii are to rumble intermittently with low-frequency noises. Thousands of miles away, underwater microphones all over the Pacific are to pick up the faint signals.

But the plan drew protests from about a dozen groups trying to protect such endangered mammals as the humpback whale, which is sometimes found near the transmission sites. The protesters contend-

ed that the project threatened to deafen whales and other marine mammals, disturbing a world where careful listening was synonymous with survival — with finding food and avoiding becoming someone else's meal.

"A deaf whale is a dead whale," said Dr. Linda S. Weilgart, a scientist who led the protests. "It's not worth the risk."

The project scientists, led by Dr. Walter Munk, a leading Scripps oceanographer, vigorously denied that the experiment threatened to deafen or harm any animal. But faced with the prospect of defeat by the well-organized whale lobby, the scientists agreed to substantially redraw the plan.

The new blueprint calls for fewer intermittent broadcasts from the loudspeakers — about two days out of six, instead of daily. More fundamentally, it changes the sensitive test of global warming into an experiment that mainly measures the effects of loud noises on seagoing mammals. If signs of serious harm emerge, the experiment is to stop.

From the start, the project has devoted a sizable amount to animal studies — \$2.9 million. But the revised plan, instead of combining temperature and whale tests, has the biologists taking exclusive control of the sound sources for the experiments, and allowing investigations of possible injuries to mammals.

The biologists want about four days between sound transmissions so areas around the loudspeakers can return to their normal acoustical and biological state, presumably allowing any animals that were scared away to return and allowing new animals to arrive.

As important, the new plan calls for the

California broadcast site to move from the sheltered waters of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary to Pioneer Seamount, a mass of old volcanic rock rising from the sea floor some 55 miles (90 kilometers) off San Francisco, where seas are rougher.

The distance and the possibility of high waves will prevent small boats from conducting animal studies. Instead, larger boats and planes or underwater microphones will scan the waters for signs of animal distress.

A biologist at the University of California at Santa Cruz, Dr. Daniel P. Costa, who directs the California marine mammal studies, said aerial surveys of the site had been flown once a month since June to try to understand the normal volatility of animal behavior and demographics.

DR. Costa's team has been able to tie radio transmitters onto 14 male and 7 female elephant seals so that satellites can easily track their movements and determine if the project's transmissions cause the animals any anxiety, perhaps as evidenced by their veering away.

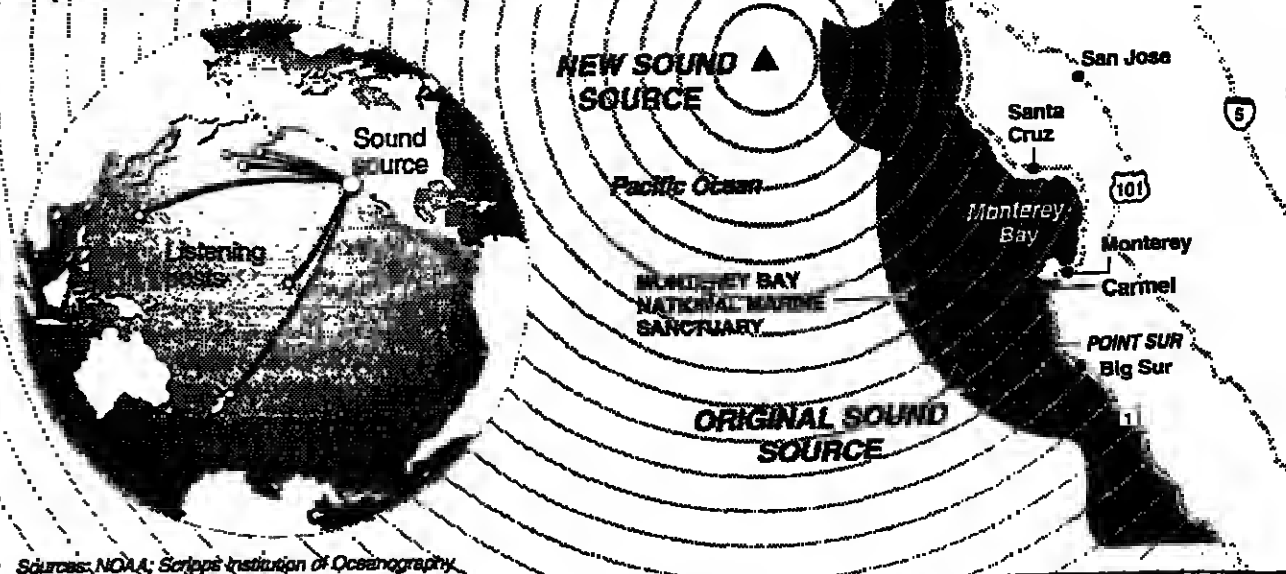
A similar plan to put instruments on blue whales fell through when too few of the animals could be found in the proper vicinity, even as great numbers of them were sighted much farther south near the Channel Islands.

"People think of the ocean as static," Dr. Costa said. "It's just not that way."

Moving the experiment out to sea added to its costs. Old power cables for the California loudspeaker had to be lifted from the seabed and new cables laid down. But

Listening to the Ocean's Temperature and Wildlife

Sound moves faster in warmer water, so changes in its speed can be used as a thermometer. The sound source for such an experiment has been moved outside of a marine preserve and will emphasize the sound's effects on animals.



Sources: NOAA, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

project scientists say the Pioneer site is fine scientifically.

"For acoustic propagation, the Seamount is better" than the sanctuary site, said Dr. Andrew Forbes, the project manager.

In the new plan, the gathering of any warming data will be secondary, but perhaps still significant. By definition, the best experiment for temperature studies is to take daily readings, thereby collecting as much information as possible. Yet taking readings every four days or so is still

regular, though less productive.

If the tests show no significant harm to the animals after about a year of transmissions, the scientists hope to operate the speakers according to their own schedule in an effort to study global warming. But they acknowledged that any further studies would require the approval of the whale lobby.

Scientists are eager to press ahead because the project is so superior to any other method of detecting global warming. Buoys and instruments launched from

ships at great cost can generate a finite number of readings, perhaps 100 or at most 200 on a good voyage.

By contrast, ATOC would probe the average temperature of a vast body of water, greatly increasing the reliability of the information while significantly cutting the cost.

During a decade, the signature of global warming is anticipated to be the infinitesimal speedup of sound waves so that their overall travel time across the Pacific is reduced by 1.5 seconds.

Making Heart Surgery Less Intrusive, Quicker

By Lawrence K. Altman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When Dr. Valavanur A. Subramanian ran a scalpel along Edward Dowling's left fourth rib to make a three-inch (seven-centimeter) incision from near the nipple to the breast bone one day last month, the operating room at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan was eerily silent.

The operation on Dowling, a 66-year-old piano tuner, involved a new procedure known as minimally invasive direct coronary bypass surgery. Instead of stopping the heart and having a heart-lung machine take over its duties, Dr. Subramanian's team performed a delicate operation on the organ as it continued to beat.

Cost-cutting, technical advances and competition are pushing heart surgeons into hazardous new territory — operating on a beating heart through small incisions in the chest wall.

Dr. Subramanian's approach is one of several ways minimally invasive coronary bypass surgery is being done. Some versions are modeled after the video-assisted, fiber-optic techniques developed for gallbladder and other surgeries. Others have modified decades-old methods to sew ar-

terial grafts onto beating hearts without using heart-lung machines.

The new operation, if it becomes accepted, promises to be cheaper. It will allow patients to make a quicker and less painful recovery than with a standard bypass. It will also increase therapeutic options for those with angina, the chest pain resulting from blocked coronary arteries.

In a standard coronary bypass operation, surgeons make a foot-long incision in the chest, split the breast bone and stop the heart. As a heart-lung machine temporarily pumps oxygenated blood through the body, a surgeon takes veins from a leg, an artery from the chest, arm or abdomen, and sews it to a coronary artery. The graft restores adequate blood flow by bypassing a blockage caused by a buildup of fatty deposits.

In the new versions of the operation, surgeons operate through an incision of three or fewer inches long. They cut the internal mammary (or thoracic) artery, which courses vertically behind the rib cage, and attach it to the left anterior descending coronary artery. The mammary artery's blood thus supplies the heart in place of its own blocked circulation, while the region formerly served by the severed artery picks up blood from elsewhere.

At least 250 minimally invasive bypass

operations have been performed in the world. But it is not yet clear how many of the estimated 400,000 conventional coronary bypasses each year could be done with the new procedures.

Initially, the new operation seemed suitable only for the 5 percent of patients needing repair of a single coronary artery. But some recent versions have been adapted to graft as many as three arteries in several patients. The operation has also been used on patients who need a second bypass.

And pioneers in the technique predict that the new procedures will offer an important compromise between the standard bypass and nonsurgical techniques such as angioplasty, or will be combined with them.

CONTROVERSY about the safety and effectiveness of the procedures recalls similar opposition about five years ago when experts were skeptical about the usefulness of the new laparoscopic gallbladder surgery.

But as patients demanded the less painful laparoscopic technique, surgeons quickly learned how to do it. Now, the overwhelming majority of gallbladders are removed by such minimally invasive surgery.

Minimally invasive bypass surgery "is red hot stuff, everyone's asking about it,"

said Dr. David Sabiston, the author of a surgery textbook who did a pioneering coronary bypass operation in 1962. Dr. Sabiston said his colleagues at Duke University have performed several minimally invasive bypass operations.

At the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Bartley P. Griffith said that in doing minimally invasive bypass surgery, he uses a thoracoscope, a fiber-optic device that has been used in chest surgery for several years.

A two-inch incision is made to the left of the breast bone. Three additional one-inch incisions are made to insert a video camera, knife, surgical stapler and other instruments. In the first stage of the operation, surgeons prepare the internal mammary artery while watching on a video monitor. They go back to the standard way of working with optical loops to sew the arteries.

A cardiac surgeon, Dr. Delos M. Cosgrove of the Cleveland Clinic, said, "The best thing about all this is that it will give a tremendous boost for technology and impetus for us to rethink what we are doing."

Dr. Subramanian said he and others were exploring ways to immobilize the region of the heart where a new graft is to be sewn. Among methods under investigation are drugs, suction devices, other instruments, cold temperatures and electric shocks.



Dr. Valavanur A. Subramanian, left, using his less-invasive procedure.

IN BRIEF

European Collider Gears Up

PARIS (IHT) — The large electron-positron collider at the European Particle Physics Laboratory has begun operating at a higher energy level at which scientists hope to find so-called super-symmetrical particles and a new understanding of matter.

Scientists believe that for every known particle there is a super-symmetrical particle. Finding such objects could shed light on the mysterious "dark matter" that makes up to 90 percent of the mass of the universe. It could also cast questions on the standard model that attempts to explain the relationship between particles and forces.

The LEP accelerator, which is housed in a 27-kilometer (17-mile) tunnel straddling the French-Swiss border, has been used for the past six years to investigate the weak force that binds atoms together and helps in understanding the nuclear force that fuels the sun. A key elementary particle known as Z was first sighted at the laboratory, known as CERN after its initials in French.

With the addition of 16 more superconducting magnetic cavities, bringing the total to 60, the accelerator is able to smash particles at much higher energy levels. By studying the traces from such collisions, scientists are able to confirm or disprove theories about the nature of matter.

At Some Nursing Homes, Intimacy Is Becoming a Matter of Policy

By Matthew Purdy
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — They met last New Year's Eve. He was tall with a girl's smile. She was petite with a girl's smile. He asked her to dance and held her close. "I didn't push him away," she said. "I've been around awhile. I've pushed a lot of men away."

It was a modern romance, at once pure and complicated. First, there was his wife. He was still married, although separated. Then, there was his walker.

Fritzie Heilbron's prince came to her out as a white horse, but in black orthopedic shoes, shuffling along with the help of a walker. He is 76, impaired by Parkinson's disease, and with enough fear

of his wife to want his name kept private. But Mrs. Heilbron is smitten. She's 85 and has waited 45 years since her husband died to fall in love again.

This is a scene from a nursing home, where those who care for the elderly and infirm report a kind of sexual revolution. The revolution is out among the elderly, who experts say have always demonstrated an enduring urge for intimacy, but in the attitude of those who provide care. They are beginning to recognize that sexual activity is normal and beneficial for patients — even for those with Alzheimer's disease.

"It's not just a matter of dirty old men and disgusting old women," said Robert N. Butler, the director of the International Longevity Center at Mount Sinai Hospital. "The importance of tenderness, touching, being together in bed is an expression that

remains vital to the end of life."

At the Hebrew Home for the Aged, a 1,200-bed nursing home and Alzheimer's research center in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, where Mrs. Heilbron and her companion found each other, a new policy gives patients the right to privacy so they can carry on intimate relationships. In confronting the issue directly, the Hebrew Home is in the vanguard of the shift away from seeing sex in nursing homes as a behavior problem.

The policy states that "residents have the right to seek out and engage in sexual expression" and the right to obtain "materials with sexually explicit content," including books, magazines and videos.

The home is training its staff to recognize and respect intimate relationships, and officials there say they will try to assist

budding romances by moving one member of a couple to a single room to provide privacy. (None have asked to live together.) In the case of Alzheimer's patients or other cognitively impaired residents, the nursing home officials consult with social workers, nurses and families to determine whether both residents are willing participants and decide whether the relations should continue.

Because most nursing home residents share rooms, some homes around the United States have set aside rooms that couples can use for privacy, and others have formalized policies for addressing sexual activity, like the one at the Hebrew Home. But Meredith Wallace, a geriatric nurse at the Hospital of Saint Raphael in New Haven who has written about sexuality of the aged, said many homes are moving

slowly, if at all, to break down "the old stereotypes."

Antoinette Zeiss, a clinical psychologist at the Veterans Administration Health Care System in Palo Alto, California, who has instructed nursing home administrators in California on sexual relations among patients, said the subject is difficult to confront because "it's the conjunction of two taboos about sex."

"The first," she said, "is that sex is for the young. The second is that sex is for the cognitively intact."

She said that in her experience most people who run nursing homes agree that residents have a right to sexual expression, but it is difficult for staff members to support "because they feel uncomfortable with it."

Others have raised more straightforward objections, from the danger of patients

physically hurting themselves to the violation of moral laws at homes that are run by religious organizations.

Janet Lowe, a nurse's aide at the Hebrew Home, said that the first time she realized two unwed residents were having a relationship, "I was shocked. You don't think of your grandparents having sex."

Ms. Lowe said other members of the staff had stronger objections. "Some people thought it should be stopped because they weren't married."

Jacob Reingold, the vice chairman of the Hebrew Home, which is run according to Orthodox Jewish law, acknowledges that the home would face a quandary if two unwed patients wanted to live together. But Mr. Reingold said he was intent on fighting the tendency in the nursing home industry "to sweep this issue under the cover."

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscot

PLAYING for the Harter Cup, the Greater New York Bridge Association's double knockout team championship for non-life masters, Donald Cline and Laura Schissgal, as North-South, had a challenging bidding problem when East opened three clubs in third position, in the diagrammed deal.

Three no-trump would have been successful, and a penalty double would have earned at least 500, but the partnership landed in a precarious four-heart contract after a take-out double and a cue-bid of four clubs.

The singleton club was led, and South won with dummy's ace to avert a ruff. She led a heart to the king and then a diamond to the king, West holding up both her red aces. The next heart lead brought the jack, queen and ace, and West played a third trump to dummy's ten.

NORTH			
♠ 10 8			
♥ 10 7 4			
♦ K Q 10 3			
♣ A 8 4			
WEST (D)			
♠ 6 5 2			
♥ A 9 8 2			
♦ A 10 7 6			
♣ 5 3			
EAST			
♠ K 9 3			
♥ J 8			
♦ 9 2			
♣ K J 7 6 2			
SOUTH			
♠ A J 7 5			
♥ K Q 9 8			
♦ 5 4			
♣ Q 10 3			

North and South were vulnerable.

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3♣	Del.
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥

West led the club five.

BOOKS

THE ISLAND OF THE DAY BEFORE

By Umberto Eco. Translated from Italian by William Weaver. 515 pages. \$25. A Helen and Kurt Wolff Book/Harcourt Brace & Co.

Reviewed by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt

THE year is 1643 at the opening of Umberto Eco's novel, a philosophical puzzle called, puzzlingly enough, "The Island of the Day Before." Somewhere in the South Pacific, Roberto della Griva, "a sickly youth," finds himself "the only man in human memory to have been shipwrecked and cast up upon a deserted ship."

Yes, you read that right, dear reader, as the playfully intrusive narrator of Eco's story might have said if he were inclined to express himself in a contemporary idiom. After the ship Amariyllis goes down in a storm, Roberto, a nonsurvivor, survives by clinging to a plank and eventually crawling exhausted aboard another ship, the Daphne, which is anchored near what appears to Roberto to be an island. Exploring the Daphne, after he has begun to recover his

strength, Roberto finds it to be fully provisioned and apparently deserted, except that he begins to see signs of a mysterious Other on board.

This reminds Roberto that all his life he has sensed the presence of a missing brother, who seems so real that Roberto has even named him: Ferrante. As he searches the ship for Ferrante, the narrative reports his life up to the point of his shipwreck. This flashback takes the form of a Bildungsroman about a young romantic who first pursues the ideal of chivalry during the Thirty Years' War and then practices to become a salon philosopher in Paris during the time of Cardinal Richelieu.

At one gathering, Roberto delivers a long speech on the scientific implications of unguentum amari, or weapon salve, a substance that heals wounds when applied out to the wound but instead to any blood on the weapon that inflicted the wound. Through a misunderstanding, this speech gets Roberto arrested by no less than Cardinal Mazarin, who offers him a choice: being executed or voyaging aboard the Amariyllis to learn what may be the solution to the world-perplexing mystery of how to determine longitude. Roberto

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Sergeant David Perkel, trombone player in the U.S. Air Force Band, is reading "The Interpretation of Dreams" by Sigmund Freud.



"I'm reading this because I wanted to find out about Freud and what he has to say."

(Ilse Gersten, IHT)

chooses the Amariyllis, of course, and ends up being shipwrecked.

Meanwhile, his search of the new ship has revealed out his phantom brother, Ferrante, but instead Father Caspar Wandersdrossel. "e Societate Iesu, olim in Heribopolitano Franciscana Gymnasio, postea in Collegio Romano Matheseos Professor, and, further, astrooomer, and student of many other disciplines, at the General Curia of the Order." Father Caspar, too, has been trying to solve the longitude problem. In fact, his work is what led to his shipmates' being massacred and eaten by local natives.

Now Caspar enlists Roberto in his project, and that's about

as far as one can go in this plot summary without completely confusing the reader and giving away certain surprises. One difficulty is that the narrator of Eco's story does not speak a contemporary idiom. Endlessly digressive and long-winded, he sounds instead like a Renaissance philosopher divagating on the great mysteries of the age. More precisely, he sounds like a modern semiotics professor (which, of course, is what Eco happens to be) exploring the cosmos through Renaissance eyes.

The results are diverting in the way of Eco's previous novels, "The Name of the Rose" and "Foucault's Pendulum." "The Island of the Day Be-

fore" is effective so long as its plot is grounded in some semblance of reality. For instance, one is happy to explore the paradoxes of the romantic temperament so long as they explain why Roberto can never approach a woman he loves but prefers to write to her instead.

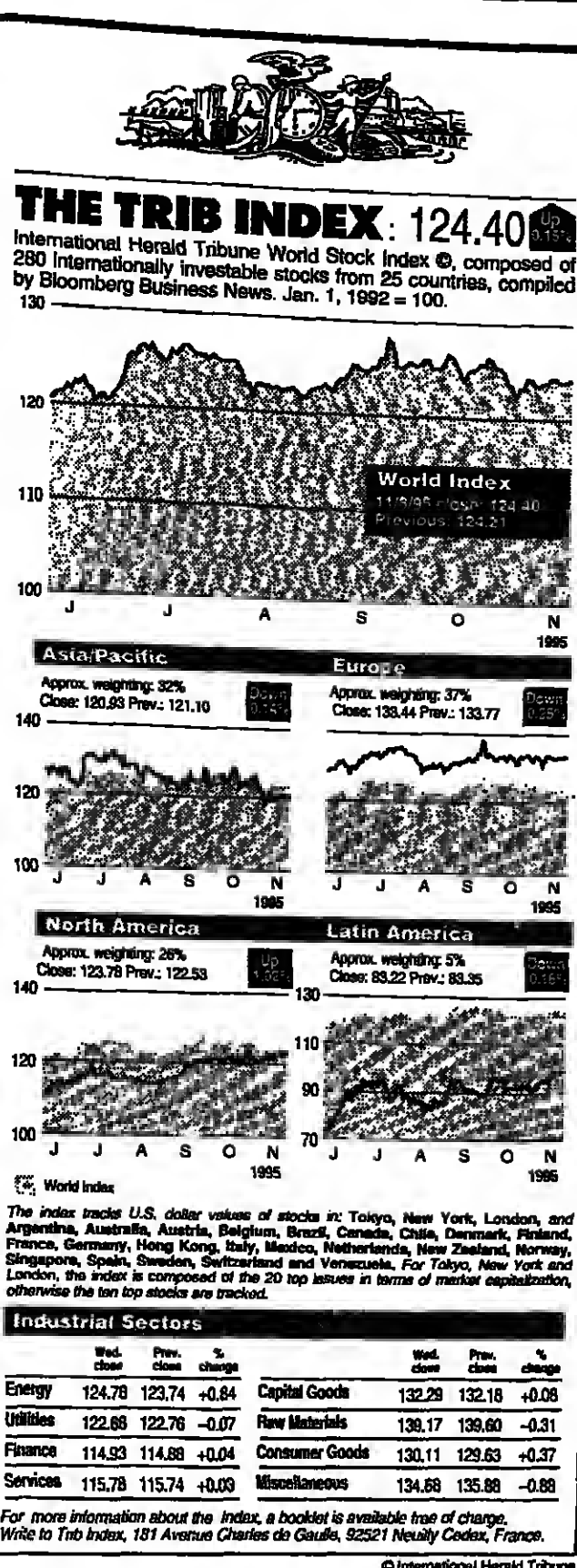
We tolerate the narrator's brain-twisting comparison of jealousy to storytelling so long as it relates to how Roberto feels about Ferrante.

And we are even amused by the devout Father Caspar's elaborate working out of where all the water for Noah's flood came from, if only because it begins to explain the title of Eco's novel. Having convinced himself that the Daphne is anchored at the 180th meridian, the Germanic Father Caspar tells Roberto: "To me matters that at this point of the earth there is a line that on this side is the day after and on that side the day before. And not only at midnight but also at seven, at ten, every hour! God then took from this abyss the water of yesterday (that you see there) and emptied it on the world of today, and the next day the same, and so on! Since miraculo, naturally." So the island across the line from the Daphne is "of the day before."

But after Father Caspar disappears as a result of what turns out to be the novel's most wrenching development, Eco's story goes off its track and gets stuck inside Roberto's head. While learning how to swim, he is poisoned by a stone fish and descends into a nightmare of hell. Here Eco suffers a deconstructive anxiety of influence and produces a pale imitation of the great sermon on hell in James Joyce's "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man."

Roberto also dreams that his beloved is on a rock on the island and decides to unite with her by drifting away along the meridian and thereby becoming suspended in time. The narrator compares the two of them to Donne's "stiff twin compasses, each moving with the motion of its companion, one leaning when the other goes further, to follow or to return together to the center." But the conceit is a bit too metaphysical to make sense. As he drifts away, so does one's admiration for what up to that point had been a stimulating if somewhat cerebral entertainment.

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt is on the staff of The New York Times.



British Rail Privatization on Track

Opponents Fail to Hold Up First Round of Sell-Offs

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Years after the idea was first floated, the hugely controversial privatization of British Rail is about to switch onto the fast track.

Winning bids for the first major pieces of the system to be sold off — three companies that among them will own all 11,000 of the system's locomotives and rail cars — are expected to be announced Thursday morning.

With the opposition Labor Party insisting that rail privatization should not happen, and many financial analysts wondering if it can happen, the government now faces the greatest test to date of a process that was the very hallmark of Thatcherism and symbolizes 16 years of Conservative rule. Having inspired the world with the successful sell-off of state assets ranging from its telephone monopoly to its airline, the government is making another stab at a precedent.

"Only a few systems have ever been privatized anywhere in the world," says Professor Chris Nash, a transportation specialist at the University of Leeds.

He listed railroads in Argentina and New Zealand as well as parts of the U.S. rail network.

Ignoring both opponents and skeptics, the government has pushed ahead with plans to announce the winning bidders for the first three passenger rail franchises by the end of the year and to have fully 51 percent of the passenger franchises in

private hands by this spring.

A target date in the spring has also been set for the flotation of Rail Track, the company that will own all BR's switches, track and stations, including such famous properties as London's Victoria and King's Cross stations.

But privatization has now also become a race against the political clock.

Far behind in the polls, the government is eager to get as much of the system into private hands as possible and as early as possible to be able to point to big improvements in service by the time the next general election is held.

In the meantime, Tony Blair, the Labor leader, has tossed a wrench into the works by insisting the system should remain in public hands and hinting at a possible renationalization under Labor.

That political uncertainty has been largely blamed for plummeting estimates of the market value of Rail Track, the system's supposed crown jewel, with its vast property holdings. Rail Track was originally believed to be worth more than £4 billion (\$632 billion), but now some analysts calculate that it might fetch only a quarter of that sum.

"The government has made a complete dog's breakfast of privatization," charges Adrian McNamara, a Labor spokesman. "These are major public assets, and the price seems to be going down and down and down."

Politics aside, one of the government's key problems is simply the immense scale of its own ambitions. It seeks not only to

transfer the company to private hands but to break it up in a bid to encourage competition. In the process, privatization has grown so complex that its precise dimensions at times seem to elude even the government.

There are about 90 pieces to be sold off, but no one has ever really counted them all," said Suzy Craythorn, a spokeswoman for the Department of Transport. In contrast, preliminary steps toward the eventual sell-off of rail systems in Germany and the Netherlands have focused on reorganization into just three or four units.

"I think that privatization could become a victim of its own complexity," said Nigel Davies, an analyst at Panmure Gordon.

Investors wonder just what exactly they are being offered and how the new entities are supposed to operate.

What concerns politicians and rail users alike is that the already little loved, overly bureaucratic operation will become bogged down in a morass of 90 separate companies — some privatized, some awaiting privatization — trying to find their own way and at the same time under pressure to improve service.

"The new system will require an incredibly high level of communication between all these companies in order for any of them to operate efficiently," said Marshall Whiting, an analyst with S.G.S.T. Securities.

Even the drive for increased efficiency has raised hackles in powerful quarters.

Dollar Weakness And Car Sector Dent Volvo Profit

STOCKHOLM — Volvo AB reported a 15 percent drop in nine-month pretax profit on Wednesday, blaming surging costs at its car division and a weak U.S. dollar for the below-par performance.

The company said it earned 10.8 billion kronor (\$1.61 billion), down from 12.7 billion kronor in the like period a year earlier.

Sales, driven by strong truck orders, rose 15 percent, to 129.1 billion kronor.

Operating profit rose to 8.88 billion kronor from 6.95 billion.

while accounting for 50 percent of group sales.

Separately, Fiat SpA said its truck unit Iveco had signed a joint venture deal to produce 12,000 of its own Iveco trucks a year in the Ukraine, Reuters reported from Turin, Italy.

Fiat said the deal had been agreed by the Ukraine's only industrial vehicle maker, Kraz, and by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Iveco.

(Bloomberg, AP)

TF1 Chairman Is Released After Fraud Inquiry

PARIS — Patrick Le Lay, chairman of France's biggest private television broadcaster TF1, was allowed to return home Wednesday after being questioned by police as part of a judicial fraud probe.

He was held by police for questioning for more than 24 hours in an investigation involving the state-owned lottery.

Mr. Le Lay was not formally placed under investigation. It was not known whether he would face formal charges.

Investigators have said they suspect TF1 of having paid 10 million francs (\$2 million) to Gerard Cole, former president of the national French des Jeux lottery, to keep exclusive broadcast rights to lottery drawings. TF1 has denied the allegations.

TF1 said police officers had searched its offices for three hours Tuesday before taking Mr. Le Lay for questioning. Mr. Le Lay has called the accusation that TF1 had paid Mr. Cole to keep exclusive rights to the lottery results "grotesque."

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Russia Replaces Central Bank Governor

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin on Wednesday fired Tatyana Paramonova as head of the central bank and appointed her deputy a temporary replacement.

The move had been widely expected since the State Duma, Parliament's lower house, declined this summer for a second time to confirm Ms. Paramonova's nomination. She took over the post in October 1994 and since has stayed on as acting chief.

Alexander Khandryev, the central bank's first deputy chairman, will take over as caretaker governor until a replacement is found, Mr. Yeltsin said in a decree issued

from a hospital where he is being treated for heart problems.

Ms. Paramonova has been credited with holding to tight monetary policies that have helped bring down inflation and stabilize the ruble for the first time since the start of Russia's economic reforms in 1992.

She also has been instrumental in modernizing the central bank, building an institution suited to Russia's emerging market out of a bank designed for the Soviet command economy.

But she has been criticized by commercial banks and politicians for tightening reserve requirements and mishan-

dling last August's liquidity crisis and a growing tide of bank insolvencies.

Economists and some legislators said the change of central bank leadership was not likely to alter Russia's monetary policy.

"Alexander Khandryev is not likely to steer monetary policy onto a new track, and obviously he will not just hand out soft loans," said Alexander Pochinok, deputy head of the Duma's budget committee.

"The course will be the same, but there will be more order, just because in certain circumstances it is easier for a man to do something which a woman cannot do."

(Reuters, AP)

Thinking Small Has Big Future at 3M

By Barnaby J. Feder
New York Times Service

ST. PAUL, Minnesota — Not long ago, botanists discovered that mushrooms scattered over a 30-acre (12-hectare) area in Upper Michigan were actually part of one huge fungus.

Now, something similar is happening here at the headquarters campus of Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co., where new materials for products as diverse as highway signs, laptop computer screens and diapers are growing from a single manufacturing technology called microreplication.

The technology allows 3M to cover the surfaces of large sheets of plastic, rubber and other moldable materials with microscopic ridges, pyramids or other raised features.

Packed in at thousands to the square inch, the shapes are arrayed in patterns that improve the performance of a wide range of everyday products, making highway signs reflect more light or adding durability to industrial sandpaper.

The latest application, just in time for Christmas, is a computer mouse pad that gives users improved control of their cursors. Scores of other products are in the works.

"Thirty percent of the company's products could be tied to this in 10 years," said Roger Appeldorn, the scientist who has been 3M's most zealous proponent of microreplication.

Even taking the more conservative projection of 15 percent to 20 percent

favored by senior executives, the result would be sales of as much as \$8 billion a year, greater than last year's revenues at such giants as Eli Lilly & Co., Kellogg Co. and Gillette Co.

"This is an example of American innovation at its best," said Ronald Mitsch, vice president in charge of 3M's industrial and consumer businesses and one of Mr. Appeldorn's earliest supporters.

That said, microreplication is no overnight success story. Despite its current hot status, it provides a case study of the hurdles facing innovation even in the most receptive of environments.

3M's corporate culture lionizes the inventors of creative products such as the company's Post-it note pads, and it encourages researchers to devote part of their time to blue-sky projects.

Even so, microreplication had to overcome competition from other technology projects for resources. It also had to survive gaps in 3M's production and research skills and difficulties in sorting out which products would benefit most.

More than 30 years after microreplication first caught 3M's attention, no more than 150 of 3M's 60,000 products rely on the technology, probably accounting for less than \$200 million of the company's revenue, which exceeded \$15 billion last year.

Only now, as the pace and variety of its product applications accelerate rapidly, has microreplication reached the point where it looks like a home run, providing another lesson about the limits of innovation. As 3M presses forward with

microreplication and other promising advances, the sluggish growth of its earnings serves as a warning that there is more to corporate strategy than simply fostering new technology.

Many analysts say 3M's heavy investment in such low-margin commodity businesses as videotapes, film and floppy disks has led the company into a strategic dead end, as most consumers prefer ever cheaper, standardized products to new features at higher prices.

Overall, 3M's growth in profit and sales has not been stellar. Although last year's sales and profit were at record levels, net income was virtually flat from 1991 to 1994, and sales growth in the period was a modest 16 percent. This year has brought only slight improvement over last year.

3M shares have risen only about 9 percent this year, compared with nearly 28 percent for the Standard & Poor's 500 index.

Microreplication may yet pay off on this front, though, helping 3M buy time to prove that it can bring greater profit from its commodity businesses through overseas expansion, cost controls and product improvements.

The technology is changing the way 3M thinks about managing everything from light, fluids and sound to electrical connections and plain old wear and tear on surfaces that rub together.

Thanks to microreplication, 3M developed a thin transparent sheet of plastic

See 3M, Page 19

Output Increases In China

Bloomberg Business News

BEIJING — China's slight easing of credit in recent months has begun to warm its economy, resulting in increased industrial output and sales in October, economists said Wednesday.

"The economy hit bottom in September, and we should see a modest bounce from October on," said Chen Xingdong, an economist with Crosby Securities in Beijing.

Data showing that inflation was slowing might give the government sufficient confidence to ease credit further, other analysts said.

The government said incremental industrial output — the most widely watched measure of China's industrial production — grew at an annual rate of 12.9 percent in October, compared with 12.3 percent for the third quarter.

October's industrial output was valued at 151.3 billion yuan (\$18.2 billion), bringing the total for the first 10 months of the year to 1.4 trillion yuan, 13.3 percent more than in the like period last year.

As part of a campaign to curb inflation, central bank officials in September directed major commercial banks to issue more capital loans so that companies could meet their day-to-day needs.

Mr. Chen said the growth in output and sales had "a lot to do with the easing of working-capital loans recently."

French Cabinet Vows Cuts

By Max Berley
Special to the International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The streamlined new cabinet of Prime Minister Alain Juppé pledged Wednesday to attack France's growing public deficit in what it portrayed as an effort to create jobs as well as practice fiscal discipline.

Chairing the first meeting of the cabinet, President Jacques Chirac proclaimed a new emphasis on financial rigor.

"We will not be able to fight unemployment if we do not fight very strongly against the deficit and debt," he said, according to aides.

While the changes in the French cabinet appeared slight at first glance, analysts and economists say Mr. Juppé's new team reflects a commitment to reducing France's deficits and to meeting the criteria for European monetary union.

Tuesday, after only six months in office, Mr. Juppé presented the resignation of his entire cabinet, himself included, to Mr. Chirac, who then renominated him as prime minister and charged him with creating a new cabinet.

"The decision is in line with the policies Chirac defined in his speech 10 days ago," said Jean-François Mercier, French economist at Salomon Brothers Inc. in London. "He said he wanted to reduce deficits and now he has to deliver the goods."

Optimism that the cabinet shuffle meant the government was serious about cutting the budget deficit helped stabilize French financial markets Wednesday. On the Paris Bourse, the CAC-40 blue-chip index rose 0.48 percent, to 1,866.33 points, while the French franc closed in Paris steady at 3.4553 Deutsche marks.

The signal is clear, as it's the first time a government has been dissolved in the middle of budget negotiations with the Parliament, a Paris-based economist said.

The first target, they say, will be the deficit of the social security administration, which grew to 60 billion francs (\$12 billion) in 1994 and is expected to have grown an additional 65 billion francs in 1995.

The creation of a "superministry" encompassing the previous ministries dealing with health, old age and labor and headed by new Labor and Social Affairs Minister Jacques

Barrot shows that the government intends to take a hard line on reforming social security when the subject comes up for discussion in Parliament next week, analysts said.

"By consolidating the three ministries into one, the government has shown that it wants to present a unified front on social security deficit reduction, which is a crucial aspect of the cleansing of public finances," said Valerie Assolot, an economist at Credit Lyonnais in Paris.

Economists also were encouraged by the appointment of Alain Lamassoure to the dual post of budget undersecretary and government spokesman. The appointment of Mr. Lamassoure, who is known as a strong proponent of European unity and was a close associate of former Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, is meant to send a signal that France will meet the Maastricht treaty's criteria for monetary union by slashing its deficit no more than 3 percent of gross domestic product by 1997.

On Wednesday, Mr. Lamassoure moved to assure foreign investors by announcing a plan designed to eliminate the red tape involved in investing in France. Starting early next year, foreign investors will no longer be required to obtain government permission before investing in France.

A major test for the new government will come Thursday, when the Bank of France's monetary policy council meets. Analysts said they expected a reduction in the 24-hour rate as a sign of the central bank's approval of the new cabinet. But no move on the key rates is expected before the government finishes the social security debate in Parliament.

The government also faces opposition from unions, who have accused the government of planning to curb benefits. Reuters reported France's rail workers union called for a nationwide train strike Tuesday to protest government spending cuts.

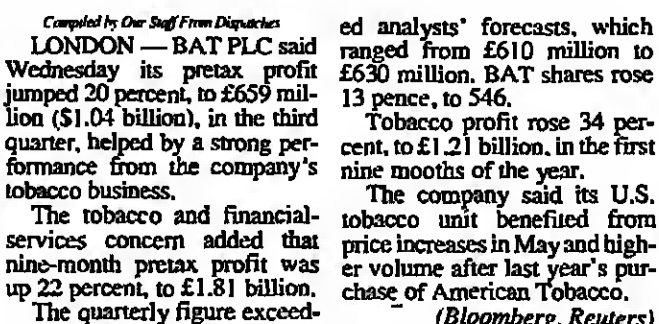
[Air France, meanwhile, issued its final offer to avert a crippling three-day strike by its cabin crews set to begin Thursday. Two unions representing 85 percent of the airline's cabin crew called the strike to protest cuts in starting wages proposed as part of a plan to raise productivity at the unprofitable airline by 30 percent in three years.]

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Nov. 8										Eurocurrency Deposits										Nov. 8									
Cross Rates										Eurocurrency Deposits										Nov. 8									
	US\$	DM	FF	Yen	GBP	Sw	Sc	DK	SEK		Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU		US\$	DM	FF	Yen	GBP	Sw	Sc	DK	SEK		
Amsterdam	1.55	2.92	1.19	1.63	1.99	1.48	1.20	1.20	1.20	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Brussels	29.07	53.00	20.36	25.92	30.95	12.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Frankfurt	1.45	2.89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
London (sterling)	1.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Madrid	122.04	19.07	62.15	24.98	30.72	74.95	4.14	10.00	10.00	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
Nairobi	191.70	25.10	172.15	24.98	30.72	74.95	4.14	10.00	10.00	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
New York (NY)	—	1.50	1.12	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
Paris	1.48	2.91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
Porto	10.26	19.17	7.25	11.13	6.48	6.47	—	—	—	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
Tokyo	135.25	24.12	65.53	24.98	30.72	74.95	4.14	10.00	10.00	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
Zurich	1.19	1.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
1 ECU	1.36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
1 SDR	1.49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 year	5% - 5 1/2		
Closings in Amsterdam, London, New York, Paris and Zurich. Bidings in other centers.																													
Toronto rates at 7 p.m. EST. To buy one dollar: To buy one dollar: Units of 100 N.Z.D. not quoted. N.A.L. not available.																													
At 7:30 a.m. point in time: To buy one dollar: To buy one dollar: Units of 100 N.Z.D. not quoted. N.A.L. not available.																													
Other Dollar Values										Eurocurrency Deposits										Nov. 8									
Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$		Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU		US\$	DM	FF	Yen	GBP	Sw	Sc	DK	SEK		
Argentine peso	1.00	Green drac.	233.24	Malaysian ring.	2.33	South African rand	1.47	Thai baht	25.10	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Australian dollar	1.3319	Hong Kong \$	7.75	Norwegian krone	4.76	Swedish krona	4.66	Turkish lira	1.80	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Austrian sch.	0.958	Indian rupee	24.50	Philippine peso	49.66	South African rand	1.47	Thai baht	25.10	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Chinese yuan	0.0611	Indon. rupiah	2275.00	Polish zloty	4.00	Swedish krona	4.66	Turkish lira	1.80	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Czech koruna	70.30	Israeli sheq.	3.48	Russian ruble	49.66	Swedish krona	4.66	Turkish lira	1.80	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Deutsche mark	1.6366	Israeli sheq.	3.48	South African rand	1.47	Swedish krona	4.66	Turkish lira	1.80	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
1 ECU	1.36	Kenyan sh.	0.30	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
1 SDR	1.49	Malay. ring.	2.33	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2	3% - 4 1/2	2% - 2 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	6% - 6 1/2	7% - 7 1/2	5% - 5 1/2	1 month	5% - 5 1/2		
Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch & Co. (New York), Reuters Bank (London), Bank of Canada (Toronto).																													
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100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy. 1 Sheqel = 100 Milim. 1 Rand = 100 Cents. 1 Lira = 100 Centesimi. 1 Yen = 100 Rinsen. 1 Baht = 100 Satang. 1 Ringgit = 100 Sen. 1 Dollar = 100 Cents. 1 Pound = 100 Pence. 1 Krone = 100 Heller. 1 Krona = 100 Öre. 1 Rouble = 100 Kopeck. 1 Zloty = 100 Groszy																													

Is SGS-Thomson Getting Ready for A Shopping Trip?

The company said it had weeded the entire Glaxo Wellcome portfolio since buying Wellcome PLC this year for \$15 billion.



BRUSSELS — The European Commission on Wednesday cleared a German aid package of 9.5 billion Deutsche marks (\$6.73 billion) to help the U.S.-based Dow Chemical Co. buy a petrochemical group in Eastern Germany.

The commission agreed to the subsidy only on a series of conditions that lowered the 11 billion DM price originally sought by Dow by 1.5 billion DM.

The biggest change concerned the commission's insistence that a request for 966 million DM to subsidize energy prices be removed from the plan.

"The commission concludes that the modified proposed plan by Dow Chemical will be viable," the commission said.

The privatization of the petrochemical concern, BSL Polyolefinverbund GmbH, would represent one of the

largest sales of state-owned assets since German unification five years ago. Dow's European unit would buy 80 percent of the company from BvS, the successor to the Treuhändarstalt privatization agency.

BSL is the remaining core of the publicly owned East German petrochemical industry, composed of Buna GmbH, Sachsische Olefinwerke GmbH and of Leuna-Werke GmbH.

"The agreed deal scheme implies privatization as well as restructuring on the basis of a plan agreed between Dow Chemical and the German authorities," the commission said, adding that Dow had been the only potential buyer. BvS has started the restructuring by closing factories and cutting the work force by 20,000 to less than 6,000.

The commission scrutinizes state subsidy programs to see that they comply with EU rules.

U.S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes						Most Actives					
Dow Jones						NYSE					
	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.		Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	4068.32	4052.47	4046.47	4052.47	+35.64	McInt's	116330	31.83	30.75	31.90	+0.17
Trans	2095.58	2091.14	2082.85	2091.14	+8.84	Kmart	72330	8.90	8.74	8.96	+0.02
Comp	1635.54	1632.12	1624.97	1632.12	+7.38	Kroger	36416	6.74	6.61	6.69	+0.08
Std	1635.54	1632.12	1624.97	1632.12	+7.38	Wal-Mart	37171	26.60	26.40	26.60	+0.20
Standard & Poor's						NASDAQ					
	High	Low	Open	Close	Chg.		Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Industrials	494.74	494.12	494.74	494.74	+5.82	Eastman	32712	62.34	58.94	59.00	+0.06
Transport	274.76	274.19	272.57	274.19	+1.61	GenCorp	11135	23.75	23.75	23.75	0.00
Chemicals	189.00	187.43	189.03	189.03	+1.63	Johnson	31135	23.75	23.75	23.75	0.00
Finance	99.74	99.74	99.74	99.74	+0.07	Amgen	1448	100.75	99.75	99.75	0.00
Utilities	56.92	56.92	56.92	56.92	+0.07	Novartis	26483	26.90	26.90	26.90	0.00
SP 100	562.92	562.92	562.92	562.92	+5.35	Amgen	26483	26.90	26.90	26.90	0.00
NYSE						NASDAQ					
	High	Low	Last	Chg.			Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Comstock	213.54	212.99	213.54	+2.52	Intel	12554	46	45.00	45.00	45.00	0.00
Amstar	213.54	212.99	213.54	+2.52	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Transp.	274.76	274.19	274.76	+1.61	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Chem.	189.00	187.43	189.00	+1.63	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Finance	99.74	99.74	99.74	+0.07	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Indus.	494.74	494.12	494.74	+5.82	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
NASDAQ						NYSE					
	High	Low	Last	Chg.			Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Comstock	213.54	212.99	213.54	+2.52	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Amstar	213.54	212.99	213.54	+2.52	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Transp.	274.76	274.19	274.76	+1.61	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Chem.	189.00	187.43	189.00	+1.63	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Finance	99.74	99.74	99.74	+0.07	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Indus.	494.74	494.12	494.74	+5.82	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
AMEX						NYSE					
	High	Low	Last	Chg.			Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Comstock	213.54	212.99	213.54	+2.52	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Amstar	213.54	212.99	213.54	+2.52	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Transp.	274.76	274.19	274.76	+1.61	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Chem.	189.00	187.43	189.00	+1.63	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Finance	99.74	99.74	99.74	+0.07	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00
Indus.	494.74	494.12	494.74	+5.82	Novel	11920	30.75	28	28	28	0.00

Dow Jones						NYSE					
	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.		Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
20 Bids	109.85	—	—	—	—0.01	Escholtz	278	36	35 1/4	36 1/4	+1/4
100 Utilities	100.29	—	—	—	—0.01	Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
10 Industrials	100.29	—	—	—	—0.01	Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4	0
						Wendell	134	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4</	

INTERNATIONAL

Nov. 8, 1995

High Low Open Close

Grains

CORN (CBOT)

100 bushels, cents per bushel

Dec 95 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

Mar 96 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

May 96 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

Jul 96 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

Oct 96 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

Est. sales 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

Tue's open 2.31 2.34 2.31 -0.0047(17) 120

SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)

50 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

Jan 96 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

Mar 96 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

May 96 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

Jul 96 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

Oct 96 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

Est. sales 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

Tue's open 210.20 210.10 210.00 +0.70 44.04

SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)

42 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

Jan 96 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

Mar 96 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

May 96 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

Jul 96 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

Oct 96 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

Est. sales 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

Tue's open 21.20 21.10 21.10 +0.10 6.00

SOYBEANS (CBOT)

50 bushels, cents per bushel

Dec 95 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

Jan 96 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

Mar 96 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

May 96 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

Jul 96 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

Oct 96 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

Est. sales 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

Tue's open 6.30 6.20 6.20 +0.10 6.30

WHEAT (CBOT)

50 bushels, cents per bushel

Dec 95 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Jan 96 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Mar 96 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

May 96 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Jul 96 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Oct 96 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Est. sales 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Tue's open 4.30 4.20 4.20 +0.10 4.67

Livestock

CATTLE (COMB)

42 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

Jan 96 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

Mar 96 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

May 96 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

Jul 96 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

Oct 96 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

Est. sales 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

Tue's open 60.00 60.00 60.00 +0.00 29.87

PORK BELLS (CBOT)

50 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Jan 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Mar 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

May 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Jul 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Oct 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Est. sales 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Tue's open 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

HOGS (CBOT)

50 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Jan 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Mar 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

May 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Jul 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Oct 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Est. sales 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Tue's open 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

PORK BELLS (CBOT)

50 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Jan 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Mar 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

May 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Jul 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Oct 96 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Est. sales 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Tue's open 65.00 65.00 65.00 +0.00 2.76

Food

COCA (NICE)

100 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Jan 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Mar 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

May 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Jul 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Oct 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Est. sales 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Tue's open 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

COFFEE (NICE)

50 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Jan 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Mar 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

May 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Jul 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Oct 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Est. sales 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Tue's open 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

SKAGOLD WHEAT (NICE)

100 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Jan 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Mar 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

May 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Jul 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Oct 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Est. sales 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

Tue's open 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00 1.75

ORANGE JUICE (NCTO)

100 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 124.25 122.00 123.00 -0.70

Jan 96 124.10 121.90 122.90 -0.70

Mar 96 124.00 122.00 123.00 -0.05

May 96 124.00 122.00 123.00 -0.05

Jul 96 124.00 122.00 123.00 -0.05

Oct 96 124.00 122.00 123.00 -0.05

Est. sales 124.00 122.00 123.00 -0.05

Tue's open 124.10 122.00 123.00 -0.05

Metals

GOLD (COMEX)

100 troy oz., dollars per troy oz.

Dec 95 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

Jan 96 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

Mar 96 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

May 96 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

Jul 96 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

Oct 96 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

Est. sales 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

Tue's open 364.80 363.00 363.00 -0.30

HERRING COD (NCTO)

25,000 lbs., cents per lb.

Dec 95 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

Jan 96 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

Mar 96 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

May 96 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

Jul 96 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

Oct 96 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

Est. sales 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

Tue's open 136.30 135.00 135.00 -1.00

SILVER (COMEX)

1000 troy oz., cents per troy oz.

Dec 95 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

Jan 96 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

Mar 96 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

May 96 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

Jul 96 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

Oct 96 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

Est. sales 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

Tue's open 57.50 57.00 57.00 -0.50

PLATINUM (COMEX)

500 troy oz., dollars per troy oz.

Dec 95 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

Jan 96 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

Mar 96 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

May 96 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

Jul 96 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

Oct 96 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

Est. sales 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

Tue's open 610.00 610.00 610.00 +0.00

High Low Open Close

Financial

U.S. T-BILLS (COMEX)

100 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

Jan 96 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

Mar 96 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

May 96 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

Jul 96 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

Oct 96 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

Est. sales 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

Tue's open 94.75 94.75 94.75 +0.02 9.00

5-YR. TREASURY (CBOT)

100,000 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Jan 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Mar 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

May 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Jul 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Oct 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Est. sales 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Tue's open 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

10-YR. TREASURY (CBOT)

100,000 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Jan 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Mar 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

May 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Jul 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Oct 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Est. sales 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Tue's open 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

U.S. TREASURY BONDS (CBOT)

100,000 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Jan 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Mar 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

May 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Jul 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Oct 96 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Est. sales 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

Tue's open 110.00 110.00 110.00 +0.00

LONG TERM (COMEX)

100 lbs., cents per 100 lbs.

Dec 95 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

Jan 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

Mar 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

May 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

Jul 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

Oct 96 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

Est. sales 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

Tue's open 12.00 12.00 12.00 +0.00

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ONAL FUTURES

Symbol	High	Low	Close	Change	Symbol	High	Low	Close	Change
10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATHF)									
Dec 90	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	HEATING OIL (MMER)	42.00	42.00	42.00	+0.01
Mar 91	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 91	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 91	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 91	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 92	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 92	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 92	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 92	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 93	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 93	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 93	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 93	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 94	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 94	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 94	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 94	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 95	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 95	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 95	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 95	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 96	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 96	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 96	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 96	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 97	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 97	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 97	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 97	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 98	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 98	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 98	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 98	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 99	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 99	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 99	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 99	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 00	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 00	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 00	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 00	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 01	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 01	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 01	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 01	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 02	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 02	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 02	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 02	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 03	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 03	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 03	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 03	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 04	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 04	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 04	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 04	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 05	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 05	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 05	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 05	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 06	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 06	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 06	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 06	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 07	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 07	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 07	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 07	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 08	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 08	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 08	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 08	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 09	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 09	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 09	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 09	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 10	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 10	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 10	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 10	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 11	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 11	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 11	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 11	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 12	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 12	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 12	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 12	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 13	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 13	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 13	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 13	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 14	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 14	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 14	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 14	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 15	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 15	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 15	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 15	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 16	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 16	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 16	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 16	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 17	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 17	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 17	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 17	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 18	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 18	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 18	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 18	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 19	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Jun 19	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Sep 19	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Dec 19	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01
Mar 20	117.00	117.00	117.00	+0.24	42.00	42.00	42.00	51.40	+0.01

Wednesday's 4 p.m.
The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

ASIA/PACIFIC

Japan's Surplus Shrinks 10% on Strong Imports

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO—Steady growth in imports and sluggish exports helped Japan's current-account surplus shrink 10 percent in September from a year earlier, to \$10.61 billion, the Finance Ministry said Wednesday.

For the half-year through September, the current-account surplus dropped 7.4 percent, to \$58.30 billion, the smallest in three years.

Economists said the declines showed that the overall trend in the surplus was clearly downward. Japan's trading partners, especially the United States, frequently point to the huge trade surpluses as evidence that the Japanese market is not sufficiently open to imports.

The figures helped lift the dollar. At the end of trading Wednesday in Tokyo, the dollar rose to 103.20 yen from 103.05 yen at the close Tuesday.

The U.S. currency's gains were limited by fears that the White House and Congress will not agree to raise the national debt ceiling.

Apart from an unexpected surge in August, the trend in the Japanese trade surplus has been one of decline for most of this year.

Economists said the rise in August was an anomaly and that the downward trend seemed to have been re-established.

The current account is the broadest measure of a country's trade. It includes merchandise trade and nonmerchandise items such as banking services, overseas investment and insurance. A reduction in Japan's surplus tends to help the dollar because it means Japanese exporters have fewer dollars to sell for yen.

Ron Bevacqua, an economist at Merrill Lynch & Co., said the prospect of further declines in Japan's surplus should boost the dollar to 110 yen in six months.

The merchandise trade portion of the current account, which rose 7.2 percent in September, to \$13.16 billion.

Imports rose 13.8 percent in September, to \$23.95 billion, led by personal computers, semiconductors, clothing and cars.

Export growth weakened as manufacturers shifted production offshore to escape the strong yen and high labor costs.

Exports, led by semiconductors, machine tools and steel, rose 5.4 percent, to \$37.11 billion.

For the half-year, the merchandise trade surplus fell 3 percent, to \$70.19 billion.

The outflow of long-term capital showed a large decrease in August, and in September there was a net inflow of capital.

Economists said the turnaround had been caused by companies bringing back funds to help enhance half-year earnings figures, as well as slow bond buying on the part of Japanese investors and an increase in foreign interest in Japanese stocks.

B shares fell "because of the impact of the H-share market," said Ben Yang, an analyst at Baring Securities in Shanghai.

SHANGHAI — "B" shares traded in Shanghai dropped Wednesday to their lowest level since May, moving in tandem with slumping Chinese stocks.

Exports, led by semiconductors, machine tools and steel, rose 5.4 percent, to \$37.11 billion.

For the half-year, the merchandise trade surplus fell 3 percent, to \$70.19 billion.

The outflow of long-term capital showed a large decrease in August, and in September there was a net inflow of capital.

Economists said the turnaround had been caused by companies bringing back funds to help enhance half-year earnings figures, as well as slow bond buying on the part of Japanese investors and an increase in foreign interest in Japanese stocks.

Bond Buyers Say No to Vietnam

Global Investors Doubt Pace of Hanoi's Reforms

Bloomberg Business News

HO CHI MINH CITY — The first worldwide sale of a bond linked to stock in a Vietnamese company has been postponed indefinitely, a sign that investors are skeptical of Vietnamese companies and the country's market reforms.

The sale of \$40 million of bonds of the Hong Kong-based Luks Industrial Co., which manufactures electronic components, was scheduled for last Wednesday in London. The bonds are convertible into stock in Luks Vietnam, a unit of Luks Industrial. The main problem with the convertible issue is that Vietnam does not yet have a stock market.

The sale was called off after investors — despite being offered unusually high yields and escape clauses with guaranteed payouts — failed to step forward.

"It's a young economy, there's no corporate law, and the concept of equity doesn't exist" in Vietnam, said Robert Hegt, a portfolio manager for HSBC Asset Management. HSBC considered the Luks bond but decided it was too risky.

"We have to wait for clients to respond," Martin C.T. Fan, corporate secretary of Luks Industrial, said last week after the sale in London was scrapped. On Wednesday, a company spokesman said Luks was "confident" the company could sell the bonds within two weeks.

A spokesman for Salomon Brothers Inc., which is managing the sale, said the fact that the bonds offer conversion into stocks that do not yet exist had required them to look for investors with an unusually long-term outlook.

The terms of the bonds, which come due in 2000 and are convertible into shares of Luks Vietnam, seemed sweet

enough to attract even the most risk-averse investors.

Special clauses addressed the bonds' single biggest risk: that stock in Luks Vietnam will exist only when, and if, Vietnam finally starts a stock market.

The government has said it plans to start one, but many investors say it will take several years for a bourse to open.

Under terms of the bond, if no stock market is opened within three years and the investors want to cash out, they may do so through a so-called put option for a guaranteed 12.7 percent yield. Investors can cash out after four years for a guaranteed 13 percent yield.

If a stock market is opened by November 1997, investors will be able to exchange the bonds for shares at a 15 percent discount to the stock offering price. If the market is opened between December 1997 and November 1999, the discount increases to 20 percent.

The terms of the Luks bond, which pays 7 percent annual interest, are generous when compared with other Asian convertible bonds. A convertible bond sold by the Hong Kong property company China Resources Enterprise Ltd., for example, pays annual interest of up to 3.25 percent, can be converted to shares at a 15 percent premium and offers a five-year put option at about a 7 percent yield.

Mark Hodge, an analyst who follows Luks Industrial at GK Goh Holdings Ltd., said the company was having a difficult time getting money it is owed in China, where most of its manufacturing is done. Within four years, the company hopes to generate as much as 70 percent of its revenue from Vietnam, which currently accounts for just 5 percent.

Luks is to use the funds raised from the bond issue to develop its cement and property businesses in Vietnam. Luks Vietnam already owns a stake in a Ho Chi Minh City office tower complex, Saigon World Trade Center, which is scheduled for completion in 1997.

The company is likely to find it has just as many problems in Vietnam as it does in China, bankers said.

"Most joint ventures in Vietnam are struggling," one said.

The halting pace of Vietnam's financial market reforms has dampened enthusiasm for the Luks convertible bond.

In recent years, under Vietnam's *doi moi*, or economic-reform policy, the government has taken steps to open the country's economy to foreign capital.

In June, the Vietnamese central bank sold \$3.6 billion (\$7.6 million) of Treasury bills in the country's first government securities auction. Thirty local banks and four foreign banks were licensed to participate in bidding.

But reforms have frequently been slowed by restrictions placed on foreign ownership of Vietnamese assets.

Government officials have said a stock market will start as early as 1997 but have publicly argued over how it should be regulated and which agency will run it.

That wrangling has led many foreign investors to doubt that a bourse will open soon.

Last week, a British daily newspaper published an interview with a Finance Ministry official, Nguyen Cong Nghep. Citing the relatively few Vietnamese companies that could qualify to issue shares, he said Vietnam was still "a long way" from starting a stock exchange.

Firms' Profits Show Indonesian Growth

Reuters

JAKARTA — The blue-chip companies Indosat and PT Astra International posted profit rises Wednesday, and analysts said the news reflected a strengthening Indonesian economy.

Indosat, the government-controlled telecommunications company, said net profit rose 55 percent, to 121.5 billion rupiah (\$53.3 million), in the third quarter as sales rose 12 percent, to 260.8 billion rupiah. Nine-month net profit rose 66 percent, to 342.2 billion rupiah. The company's shares fell 50 rupiah, to 7,600.

Astra International, a major carmaker, said third-quarter net profit rose 24 percent, to 90 billion rupiah. For the first nine

months, net profit was 271.41 billion rupiah, a 45 percent increase from a year earlier. Nine-month revenue rose 40 percent, to 8.79 trillion rupiah. Shares in Astra slid 25, to 3,725.

"The improved earnings in these two companies reflects sustained growth in the national economy," said Setiadi, an analyst with Asian Development Securities.

The World Bank estimated in a June report on Indonesia that economic growth in 1994 was 7.3 percent.

Data from the brokerage concern Vickers Ballas Tamara showed that among 197 companies surveyed, 1995 first-half profit rose 43.8 percent on average.

Analysts said they expected an interest-

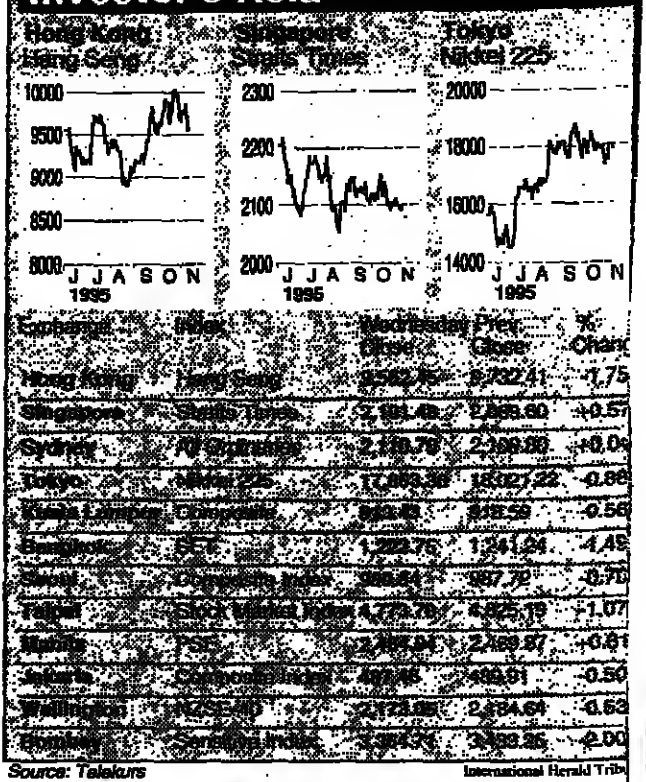
rate cut and reduced inflation to help sustain strong earnings growth.

Irene Tang, an economist at Banque Paribas in Paris, wrote in a recent report: "We see the possibility of a gradual easing in interest rates from early next year. Over 1994, rates are likely to fall by around 100 basis points," or a full percentage point.

Andrew Ferris, chief regional economist with Salomon Brothers in Hong Kong, said Tuesday that inflation was likely to slow to 7.5 percent in 1996 from an estimated 9 percent this year.

He said a widening current-account deficit would put pressure on the economy if no measures were taken to increase exports and limit imports. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

Investor's Asia



Very briefly:

- Japan's Fair Trade Commission ordered 106 construction companies to pay a total of 1.5 billion yen (\$14.6 million) penalties for rigging bids on public-works projects.
- Japan wants an Asia-Pacific free-trade area by 2020, but ambassador to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum said Japan still wanted special treatment for agriculture.
- NEC Corp. of Japan and Samsung Electronics Co. of South Korea are to work together to make logic chips for electronic consumer products in Asian markets. Terms were not disclosed.
- Kentucky Fried Chicken, a unit of PepsiCo Inc., is to continue to expand in India despite the fact that New Delhi's city government said it was determined to shut one of its restaurants.
- China, in an effort to calm scandal-ridden futures markets, rules that will force traders who are not members of a sanctions exchange to submit qualifications for review.
- Hong Kong is raising 8.2 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$1.4 billion) in syndicated loans to continue building its new airport.
- Hyundai Motor Co. expects 1995 profit to rise 32 percent, to 180 billion won (\$233.2 million). (AFP, AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Acer October Sales Double

TAIPEI — Acer Inc., one of the world's largest manufacturers of personal computers, said Wednesday that its sales in October more than doubled because of brisk global demand. Sales last month rose to 7.3 billion Taiwan dollars (\$268 million) from 3.4 billion dollars in the like month last year. Acer said. The figures did not include revenue from the company's subsidiaries.

Acer said sales for the first 10 months of 1995 rose 85.1 percent to 47.2 billion dollars. Group sales last month climbed 87 percent from a year earlier, to 17.1 billion dollars.



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NYSE

Wednesday's 4 p.m. Close

(Continued)

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld PE	100	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
12.00	11.00	IBM	3.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Microsoft	2.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Apple	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Oracle	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Sun Microsystems	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Lucent Technologies	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Motorola	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Intel	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Advanced Micro Devices	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	AMD	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld PE	100	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
12.00	11.00	IBM	3.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Microsoft	2.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Apple	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Oracle	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
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12.00	11.00	Apple	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.00	11.00	Oracle	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
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12.00	11.00	Advanced Micro Devices	1.00	12.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
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IBM Corp. (NYSE:IBM) closed at 110.00, up 1.00 from the previous session. The company reported a third-quarter profit of \$1.1 billion, or 11 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$1.1 billion, or 11 cents a share, in the same quarter last year. IBM's revenue for the third quarter was \$10.1 billion, up from \$9.8 billion in the same quarter last year. The company's operating profit for the third quarter was \$1.1 billion, or 11 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$1.1 billion, or 11 cents a share, in the same quarter last year. IBM's revenue for the third quarter was \$10.1 billion, up from \$9.8 billion in the same quarter last year. The company's operating profit for the third quarter was \$1.1 billion, or 11 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$1.1 billion, or 11 cents a share, in the same quarter last year.

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World Facts
at a glance

November 8, 1995

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WORLD ROUNDUP



Steffi Graf on the way to her first match victory since the U.S. Open.

A Rusty Graf Wins

TENNIS Steffi Graf's recent absence from tennis affected her play — for about a set. The No. 1 player, dogged by tax and health problems, returned quickly to form, defeating Arno Frazier, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2, on Tuesday in the second round of the Advanta Championships in Philadelphia.

"I need one or two matches to get my shots going," said Graf.

Graf had played one match since winning the U.S. Open, losing in the first round at Brighton, England. (AP)

The Gray and the Gold

BASEBALL Some of baseball's elderly have filed for free agency. Andre Dawson of Florida, 41; Lou Whitaker of Detroit, 38, and Brett Butler of Los Angeles, 38, added their names to the list along with Chuck Finley of California and Greg Gagne of Kansas City.

Don Baylor, who led Colorado to the playoffs in only his third season, was voted the National League's Manager of the Year. Baylor received 19 of 28 first-place votes and nine seconds for 122 points in voting by the Baseball Writers Association of America. Davey Johnson, with 89 votes, was second. (AP)

New Zealand Gains Edge

CRICKET New Zealand pacemen Chris Cairns and Dion Nash grabbed three wickets for eight runs to jolt India on the rain-interrupted first day of the third and final test in Cuttack, India. India reached 77 for three. (Reuters)

Finns Release Black Player

BASKETBALL A Finnish basketball club has decided to stop hiring black Americans after racist attacks forced a player to return home. Darryl Parker, 22, flew back to San Diego on Tuesday following attacks by skinheads in Joensuu, 430 kilometers (270 miles) northeast of Helsinki.

"Darryl was a great guy and we're sad to see him go," said Eero Oksava, chairman of Joensuu Kataja, a first-division club, which hired Parker in September.

"We'll be hiring a new American player, but I'm afraid he won't be black," Oksava said. "It may seem like giving in to Darryl's attackers, but it appears we have little choice."

About 40 American basketball players, most of them black, play on Finnish teams. (AP)

Prosecution on the Ropes, Then King Takes Stand
Surprising Admission by Promoter

NEW YORK — The prosecution's case against Don King appeared on the ropes until the boxing promoter took the witness stand for three days and revived the government's charges.

Before King testified, the defense lawyer Peter Fleming doubted if the government could even claim in fairness that King's company lied to Lloyd's of London by asking for \$350,000 for a cancelled bout in 1991.

By last week, the case appeared to have lost its steam, bogged down in numerals and dozens of insurance documents and arguments over the meaning of words in insurance and fight contracts.

It grew so bad that in discussions between lawyers and U. S. District Judge Lawrence McKenna a week ago, the judge questioned whether the jury might conclude there was no crime, much less a criminal to be blamed.

Documents submitted to the insurance company said the \$350,000 was money paid to boxer Julio César Chávez for training in preparation for a title fight with Harold Brazier. The fight was canceled after Chávez cut his nose.

Fleming argued the \$350,000 was part of \$736,000 King paid Chávez before the bout to cover living expenses, also known in boxing as maintenance, between fights.

"Is it not just as easy for the jury to infer that Mr. King says (to an employee) 'you can claim \$350,000 and that's an advance for maintenance springing out of the \$736,000 check I gave Chávez?'" the judge asked.

But King testified that the fake \$350,000 claim was indeed made — by his former accountant, Joseph Maffia.

"It was made up, yes," King said.

King's testimony, which ended Monday,

gave jurors a long look at a man the government said was so meticulous about finances that he insisted on signing all checks himself, even for as little as a nickel.

Yet, King said he knew nothing about the details of the insurance claim that prosecutors said was fraudulent.

By admitting that the \$350,000 claim was made up, he seemed to justify the nine-count insurance fraud indictment and left the jury to decide who is to blame. The indictment carries with it a penalty of up to 45 years in prison and more than \$2 million in fines.

King is the only defendant in the trial. Several former and current employees, including Maffia, were given immunity in return for their testimony.

Earlier in the trial, Maffia had testified that King told him to designate \$350,000 as training expenses for the Chávez fight. Chávez testified he was paid only \$80,000 in training expenses.

King's testimony must be compared with that of Maffia, who was so bitter after he was forced from King's company in late 1991 that he cursed at him in a telephone call that was taped and played for the jury.

It also must be compared with the testimony of Richard Hummer, a former vice president of Don King Productions who testified that he overheard King talking about the insurance claim with Maffia after he joined the company in July 1991.

King, though, testified that he never had the conversation.

Hummer had said he kept King informed about the claim during the two years he worked for him.

"Now Mr. King, did those conversations take place?" the assistant U.S. attorney, Paul Gardephe, asked King.

"No," the promoter answered.

Closing arguments were scheduled to begin Wednesday morning.

Lobbying Games Intensify For Olympic Cash and Cities

Olympic maneuverings have gathered pace this week.

The public competition to host the Summer Games in 2004 is intensifying. France nominated Lille on Tuesday while the Italian government backed Rome. Behind the scenes the battle over Olympic revenue is also heating up.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the head of the International Olympic Committee, was in Rome on Wednesday, giving the city an opportunity to push its candidacy to host the 2004 Olympics.

At the same time, international sports federations will push him to increase their cut of commercial revenues from the Atlanta Games next year.

The Italian cabinet approved sponsorship of Rome's bid Tuesday, a formality timed to coincide with Samaranch's visit. Rome, site of the 1960 Summer Olympics, is one of at least 10 cities in the running for 2004. The Italian capital is considered an early favorite, along with Cape Town, South Africa. The French Olympic committee added the northern city of Lille to the list on Tuesday.

But while the Italian National Olympic Committee president, Mario Pescante, Prime Minister Lamberto Dini and Mayor Francesco Rutelli are feting the IOC leader, another powerful Italian is expected to stir things up.

Primo Nebiolo, head of the International Amateur Athletic Federation and the As-

sociation of Summer Olympic International Federations, is leading the latter's effort to gain a larger chunk of Olympic revenues.

The ASOIF, which represents all 26 sports on the schedule for Atlanta, submitted its formal proposal in a meeting with Samaranch on Wednesday.

"The question of the federations' share of the Olympic revenues has been a point of discussion for some time now, particularly between president Samaranch and myself," Nebiolo said Tuesday.

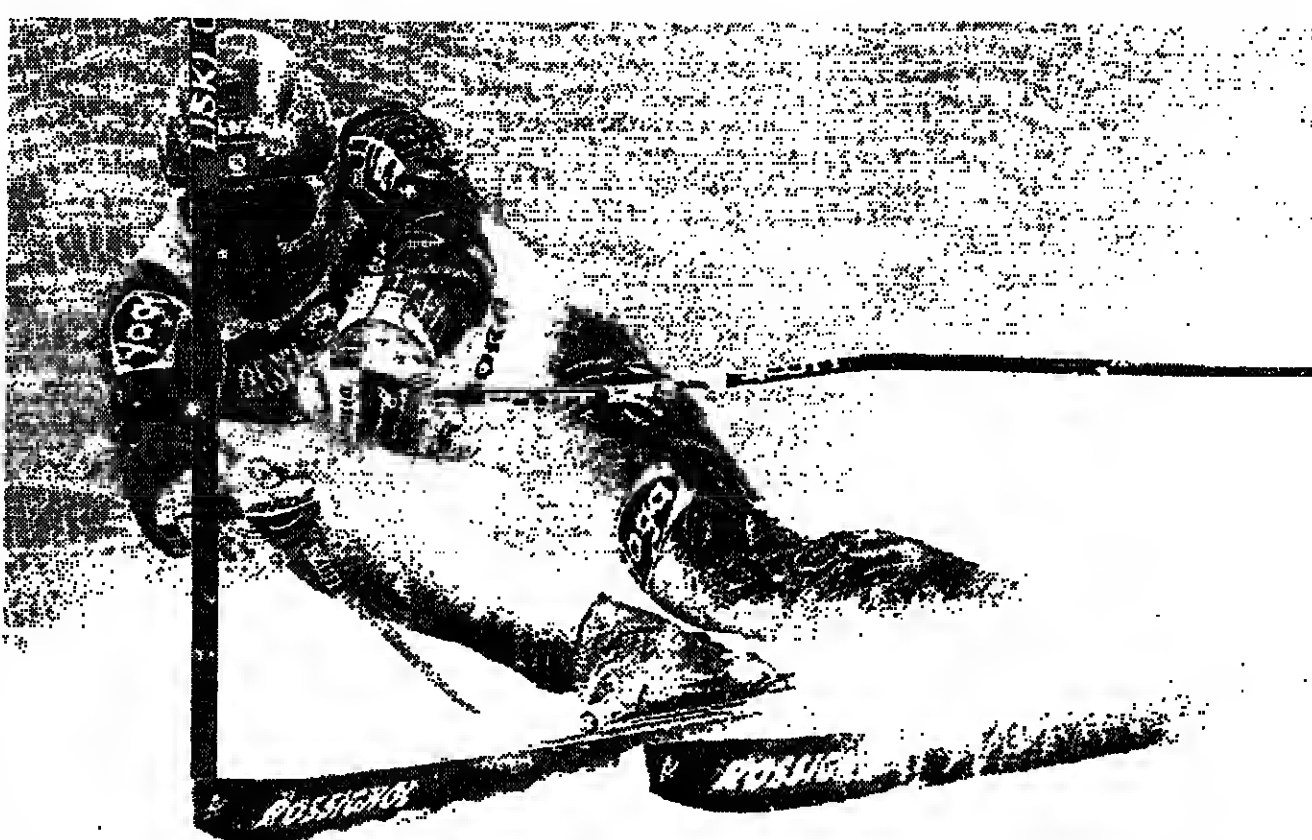
Samaranch said last summer that the IOC was prepared to offer a total of between \$20 million and \$30 million to the federations. However, Nebiolo wants \$100 million just for the IAAF, which he claims deserves the largest share because of track and field's prominence.

According to ASOIF figures, the summer federations received \$37.5 million in revenues from the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

At a meeting in Monaco in May, Samaranch agreed for the first time to give federations a bigger revenue share. The Rome meeting was scheduled to work out the details.

Total television revenues for the Atlanta Games are forecast at about \$900 million, with an additional \$600 million in marketing revenues.

About 7 percent of the total television revenue is normally split evenly among the federations.



Alberto Tomba, skiing to victory in the giant slalom in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, in January, says he will boycott races.

The Prince Sulks; the Queen Has Quit
World Cup Skiing Starts This Weekend Without 2 Stars

GENEVA — The curtain goes up on Alpine skiing's World Cup this weekend with no sign of the sport's leading man or woman.

Alberto Tomba, Italy's swashbuckling hero of the ski slopes, will be conspicuously absent. He is snubbing the opening performance at Tignes in the French Alps because he is unhappy with the role he has been offered.

While Tomba, the reigning men's World Cup overall champion, puts about rule changes, his opposite number, Vreni Schneider, has quietly made her farewell.

The Swiss cowbells finally tolled for 30-year-old Schneider as she modestly wound up her illustrious career — during which she never showed the faintest trace of being a pampered prima donna — with a third overall World Cup victory last season.

Tomba has hinted that he may bow out himself at the end of this season and his appearances may well be limited to the odd cameo role here and there this winter.

"The Italian is not the only skier outraged at the decision of World Cup organizers to change the start order of second-leg runs in

the slalom and giant slalom disciplines.

Until now, the fastest 15 finishers in the first leg started in reverse order on the second run, with the one with the slowest time going first. The skiers ranked 16th to 30th in the first run then followed in normal order.

But organizers have decreed that all 30 skiers who qualify for the second leg should start in reverse order, with the fastest going last — by which time skiers fear the slopes will be so cut up they will suffer a heavy time disadvantage.

Tomba has said he will boycott the season-opening giant slalom in protest and may restrict his appearances at other World Cup races to first legs only, waving goodbye and departing before the second run.

"Anyway, the World Cup is not my Number One target this season," he said. "I would like to win my first world title in Sierra Nevada."

Tomba, the remarkable winner of 11 World Cup races last winter, has won three Olympic gold medals but has yet to capture a world championship. He hopes to gain his first at the competition to be held in Spain in February.

If the Italian refuses to defend the World

Cup seriously, there are a host of contenders among skiing's all-rounders.

Veteran Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg has a record five overall titles and is among the favorites even if he was a relative flop last season, failing to win a single race.

Girardelli still finished fourth overall, despite a nagging knee injury, and has trained hard this summer in New Zealand alongside the German team. Fit again, he is likely to be the man to beat as he is one of the few capable of winning in any discipline.

His chief rivals could be Kjetil Andre Aamodt of Norway, another all-rounder who fell on hard times last season, and the Austrian veteran Günther Mader.

But the odds do not favor Mader. No Austrian has won the men's World Cup since Karl Schranz in 1970 — the Austrian-born Girardelli excepted.

In the women's events, the favorite is bound to be Kaja Szlezinger of Germany, who just missed the title in both 1993 and 1995. Her main rivals are likely to be Sweden's slalom queen, Pernilla Wiberg, a versatile Austrian, Anita Wachter, Heidi Zeller-Bähler of Switzerland and the American speed ace, Picabo Street.

Whalers Win One for Their New Coach
Cassels Scores Twice in 7-3 Victory Over Lowly Sharks

REUTERS The Hartford Whalers skated to a 7-3 victory over the San Jose Sharks to make Paul Maurice's debut as the new head coach successful.

Andrew Cassels scored twice and added an assist and Steven Rice had a goal and two assists to lead the Whalers, who won 7-3.

"Sometimes guys get a little emotional when there is a change," Shanahan said. "That is not a knock on Holmgren. It is not like we changed our philosophy, but sometimes it seems somebody new back there gives the guys a hit of a lift."

Maybe the shake-up got guys going," Cassels said. "It is not nice to have to shake up the team to get things going, but sometimes it does work. It is said to see Holmgren gone, but we all have to go on."

The Sharks fell to 1-4-4. Panthers 4, Flyers 2: At Florida, rookie Radek Dvorak scored twice for the second straight game to lift the Panthers over the Philadelphia Flyers.

The victory, Florida's franchise-record fourth straight, moved the Panthers three points ahead of the Flyers atop the Atlantic Division.

Dvorak has all six of his goals in his last four games.

Shanahan and Nelson Emerson each had a goal and an assist for Hartford, which outshot San Jose, 41-28. Sean Burke stopped 25 of 28 shots for the Whalers.

"Sometimes guys get a little emotional when there is a change," Shanahan said. "That is not a knock on Holmgren. It is not like we changed our philosophy, but sometimes it seems somebody new back there gives the guys a hit of a lift."

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Rob Niedermayer's backhand goal with 7:45 left in the third period pulled the Panthers into a 2-2 tie.

Tom Fitzgerald tallied into an empty net with 65 seconds left to make the final margin for Florida.

Philadelphia was playing its third straight game without its star center, Eric Lindros, who has a torn knee ligament.

King's 1, Blues 0: In St. Louis, Byron Dafeo made 33 saves for his first career shutout and Eric Lacroix scored the game's only goal as Los Angeles blanked St. Louis.

Dafeo, acquired in an off-season trade with the Washington Capitals, made nine saves in each of the first two periods and turned aside 15 shots in the final stanza.

The only goal of the game came just 49 seconds into the third period. Marty McSorley's wraparound attempt failed, but Wayne Gretzky picked up the rebound, passed to Lacroix, who whipped it past Grant Fuhr.

Maple Leafs 6, Ducks 3: In Toronto, Mats Sundin scored short-handed with 7:16 left to ignite a three-goal explosion

and lift the Maple Leafs to victory over the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim.

Mark Kolesar tallied with 57 seconds left to make it 5-3 and Doug Gilmour scored his second goal of the game, an empty-netter, with 18 seconds left to make the final margin.

Felix Potvin stopped 33 shots for Toronto and Guy Hebert made 32 saves for the Ducks.

Canucks 5, Islanders 2: In Uniondale, New York, Trevor Linden and Alexander Mogilny scored a pair of goals apiece as Vancouver rolled over the listless Islanders.

Jeff Brown set up three goals for the Canucks, who extended their unbeaten streak to five games.

Red Wings 4, Oilers 2: In Detroit, Slava Kozlov, Greg Johnson and Steve Yzerman scored in a three-goal first period to give Detroit the victory over Edmonton.

Braves 4, Capitals 3: In Washington, Jozef Stumpel, Kevin Stevens and Sandy Moger scored less than three minutes apart in the third period as Boston rallied for a victory over the Capitals.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Fair plot
- 5 Laundry load
- 6 Brown
- 10 Tonto's Scout, for one

DOWN

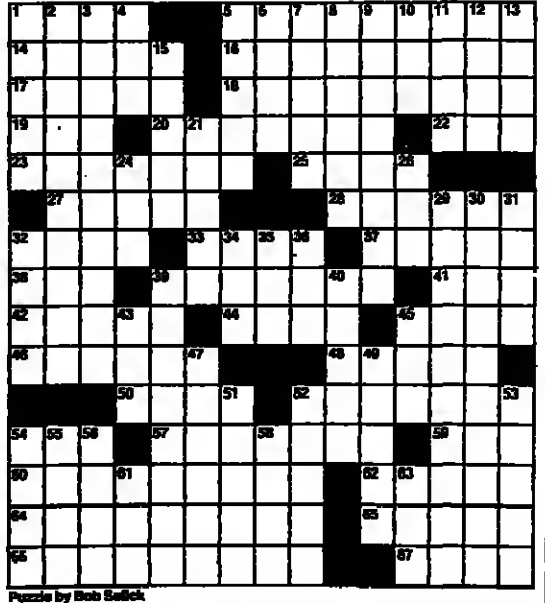
- 17 Live coal
- 18 "Mee-ow!" cry of a feline
- 19 L.A.P.O. alert
- 20 Eliminate
- 22 Hypotheticals
- 23 Regular character in "Blondie"
- 25 Overrun
- 27 Arthur Murray instruction
- 28 Forage areas
- 32 Out of port
- 33 Tops or props
- 37 Office betting place
- 38 Snoop group
- 39 Costa Rican coin
- 41 Surfers' hangout, with "the"
- 42 Blackmore heroine
- 44 Seaman-author
- 45 Bodybuilders build them
- 46 Still on the market
- 48 Tap choice
- 50 First name in tennis
- 52 Yellows, trafficwise
- 54 "The Kids Are Alright" band, with "the"
- 57 Juliet question, with "What's"
- 58 Botto sign
- 60 Showoff
- 62 Addict's program
- 64 Full as clothes
- 65 Wallop
- 66 Naps
- 67 Scott Turow title
- 1 Variety
- 2 Empathy
- 3 TV projections
- 4 Language suffix
- 5 Breakfast sizzler

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Solution to Puzzle of Nov. 8

SAID QUAIL FORT
GOLD URBAN
HAILLESS ANGLE
OPENAIR NAVELS
DARK CASH OPEN
LWD TADA DHMAGE
CALMANS BERG
EFFORT DOTS AER
STET MESO ANTI
DESCAR PART
BEREAFULIAFAUN
NOVA RABIE URGE
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Conversations From the Past With Edward Albee

Auction Tops \$100 Million for First Time Since 1990

WEATHER

Europe

City	Today		Tomorrow		
	H	L	H	L	
Amsterdam	18/64	18/61	10/58	13/55	sh
Algiers	74/84	74/61	74/63	74/63	sh
Athens	17/64	7/20	12/34	12/34	sh
Berlin	13/50	6/42	14/57	10/50	sh
Birmingham	18/64	11/52	16/58	13/55	sh
Bombay	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Buenos Aires	84/92	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Calcutta	84/92	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Cairo	74/84	74/61	74/63	74/63	sh
Copenhagen	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Dublin	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
London	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Madrid	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Moscow	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
New York	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Paris	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Rome	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Stockholm	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Switzerland	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Vienna	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Warsaw	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh
Zurich	14/58	3/27	11/52	43/53	sh

Unseasonably Cold

Unseasonably Hot

Heavy Rain

Heavy Snow

North America

A large storm will be active and southerly weather over Saturday, then colder will be in the weekend, perhaps with snow. Turning milder in New York City and Washington, D.C., with rain arriving in the weekend. Rainy in Vancouver and Seattle, dry and warm in Los Angeles.

Europe

A large storm will be active and southerly weather over Saturday, then colder will be in the weekend, perhaps with snow. Turning milder in New York City and Washington, D.C., with rain arriving in the weekend. Rainy in Vancouver and Seattle, dry and warm in Los Angeles.

Asia

Tokyo will have rain Friday. There mainly dry weather over the weekend. Saturday will be brisk and chilly, then milder. Sunday will be cold and windy Friday with fumes possible, then milder this weekend. Hong Kong will be mainly dry while Singapore has some showers.

Middle East

City	Today		Tomorrow		
	H	L	H	L	
Abu Dhabi	30/89	24/75	31/89	24/75	sh
Bombay	19/59	17/45	13/55	40/45	sh
Calcutta	19/59	17/45	13/55	40/45	sh
Colon	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Hong Kong	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Manila	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Medan	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Seoul	84/92	43/53	84/92	43/53	sh
Shanghai	18/54	84/92	17/52	74/84	sh
Singapore	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Tokyo	17/52	19/54	13/55	17/52	sh
Yokohama	17/52	19/54	13/55	17/52	sh

Africa

City	Today		Tomorrow		
	H	L	H	L	
Algiers	23/73	16/61	24/73	16/61	sh
Cap Town	23/73	16/61	24/73	16/61	sh
Colon	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Hong Kong	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Manila	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Medan	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Seoul	84/92	43/53	84/92	43/53	sh
Shanghai	18/54	84/92	17/52	74/84	sh
Singapore	24/32	32/37	11/52	43/53	sh
Tokyo	17/52	19/54	13/55	17/52	sh
Yokohama	17/52	19/54	13/55	17/52	sh


Oceania

City	Today		Tomorrow		
	H	L	H	L	
Auckland	23/73	16/61	24/73	16/61	sh
Sydney	21/38	17/62	26/78	18/56	pc

President Nelson Mandela of South

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Bulgaria	90-1800-0010
Croatia†	90-380-4288
Czech Republic	00-420-90101
Denmark	8601-0010
Finland	9006-100-10
France	19-0011
Germany	0138-0010
Gibraltar	8600

	00-500-1311		MIDDLE EAST		AMERICAS	
	000-800-9111		Bahrain	800-061	Argentina	001-800-300-1111
	000-9001		Cyprus	080-90010	Bolivia	0-800-1112
	1-800-550-080		Egypt* (Cairo)	510-020	Brazil	008-0061
	172-1011		Israel	177-100-2727	Canada	1-800-225-5288
	01-8195		Jordan	18-300-000	Chile	1-23-0-0311
	0-800-0111		Kuwait	800-288	Colombia	888-111-0610
Y.R.T.H.	89-800-4288		Lebanon (Beirut)*††	426-801	Ecuador	999-119
	0800-980-110		Qatar	0800-011-77	El Salvador	180
	18-0011		Saudi Arabia	1-800-10	Guatemala	190
	06-122-911		Syria	0-801	Honduras †	123
	800-198-11		U. Arab Emirates*	800-121	Mexico**	95-800-462-4240
00018-480-0111			AFRICA		Nicaragua	174
	05017-1-228		Gabon*	000-001	Panama	169
	01-800-4288		Gambia	00111	Peru†	171
(ecow)	155-5042		Ghana	0181	Venezuela*	80-011-120
	00-480-00181		Ivory Coast	80-111-11		
	900-99-80-11		Kenya	0800-10		
	126-795-011		Liberia	797-797		
	155-00-11		Madagascar	902-11-0011		
	00-800-12277		Sierra Leone	1100		
	810109-11		South Africa	0-800-99-0123		
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